2

I am ALICE

BODY SWAP IN WONDERLAND

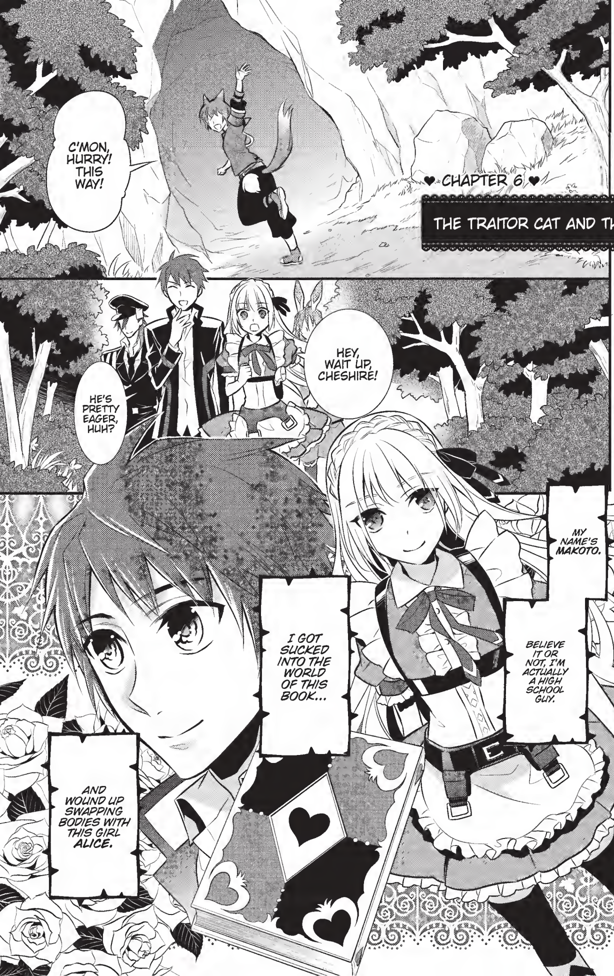
ART BY
AYUMI KANOU

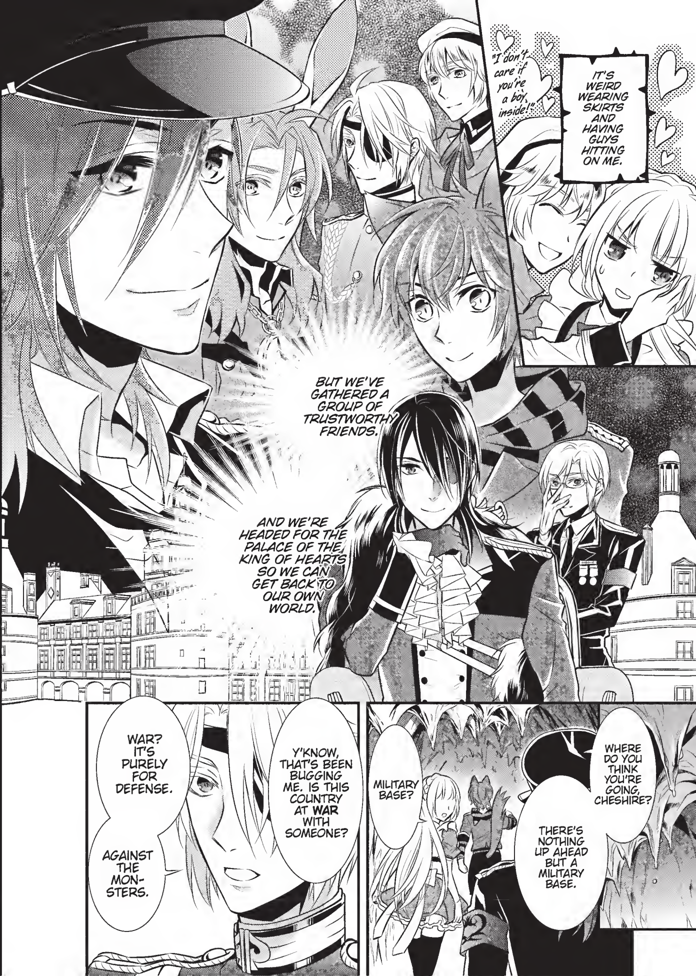
STORY BY
VISUALWORKS

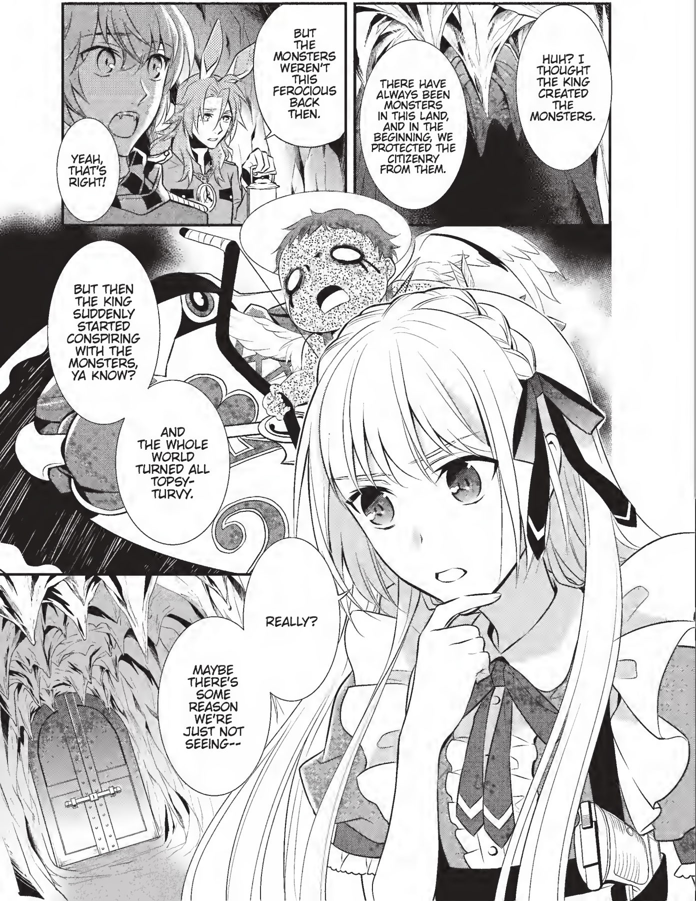
10/6

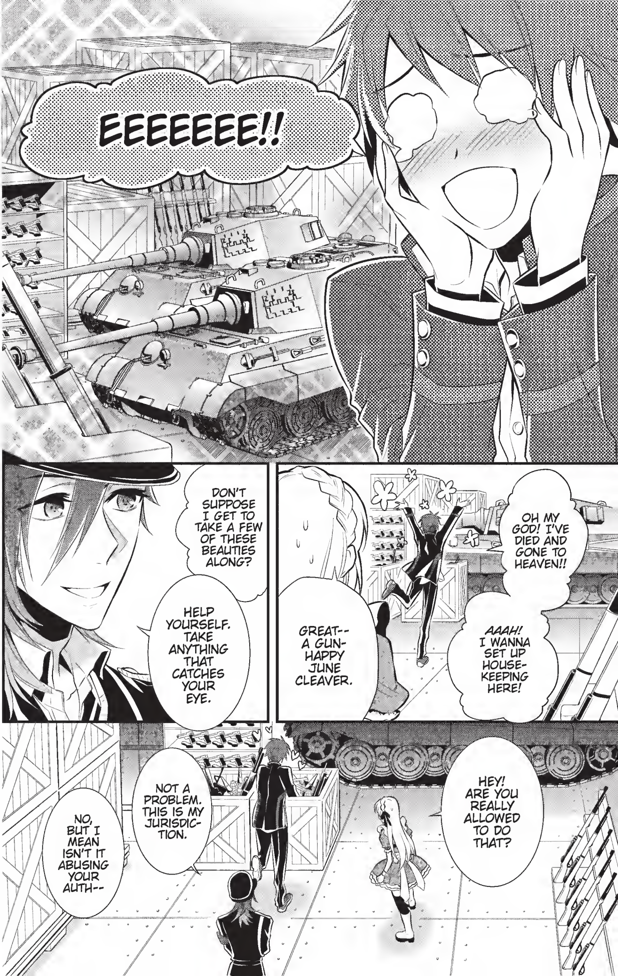
♥ CHAPTER 6 ♥

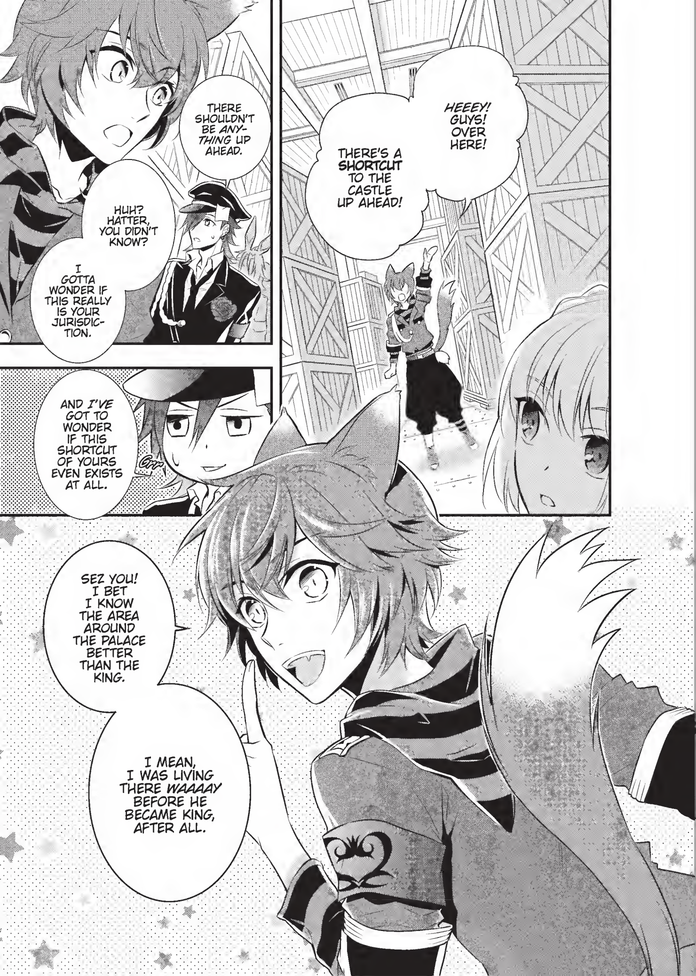
THE TRAITOR CAT AND THE KING

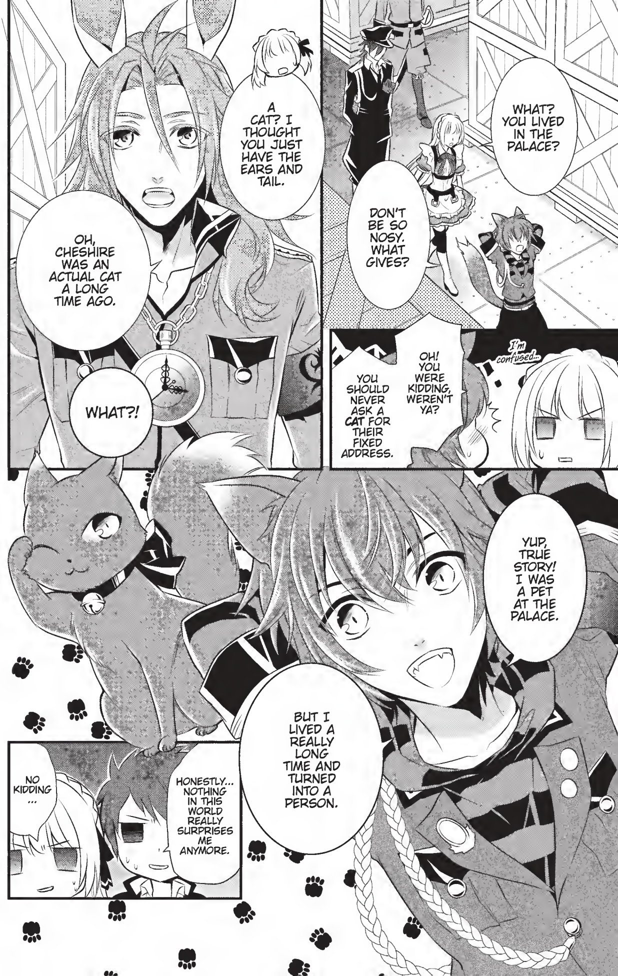

C'MON, HURRY! THIS WAY!
HEY, WAIT UP, CHESHIRE!
HE'S PRETTY EAGER, HUH?
MY NAME'S MAKOTO.
BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I'M ACTUALLY A HIGH SCHOOL GUY.
I GOT SUCKED INTO THE WORLD OF THIS BOOK...
AND WOUND UP SWAPPING BODIES WITH THIS GIRL ALICE.

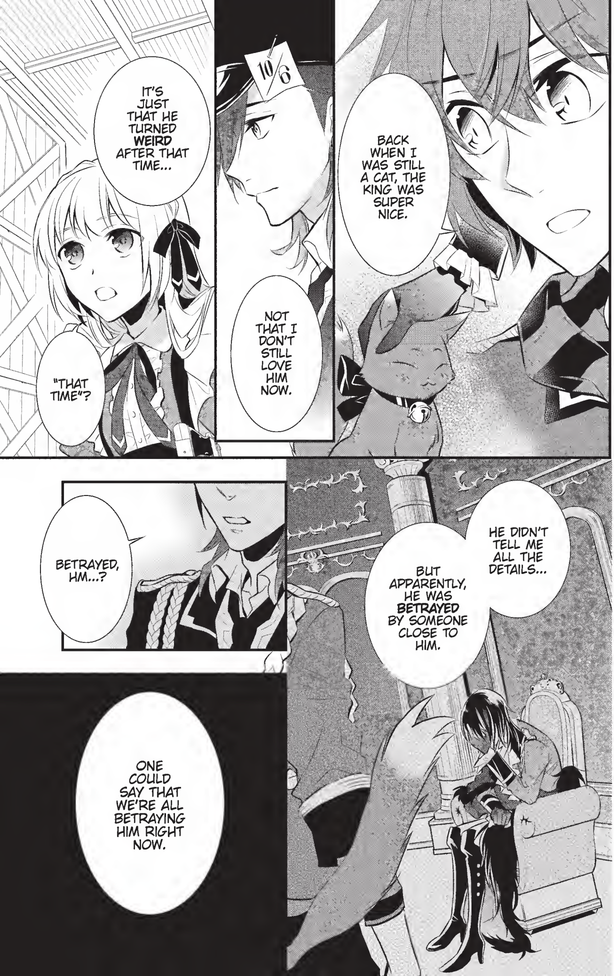

IT'S WEIRD WEARING SKIRTS AND HAVING GUYS HITTING ON ME.
"I don't care if you're a boy, inside!"
BUT WE'VE GATHERED A GROUP OF TRUSTWORTHY FRIENDS.
AND WE'RE HEADED FOR THE PALACE OF THE KING OF HEARTS SO WE CAN GET BACK TO OUR OWN WORLD.
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING, CHESHIRE?
THERE'S NOTHING UP AHEAD BUT A MILITARY BASE.
MILITARY BASE?
Y'KNOW, THAT'S BEEN BUGGING ME. IS THIS COUNTRY AT **WAR** WITH SOMEONE?
WAR? IT'S PURELY FOR DEFENSE.
AGAINST THE MON-STERS.

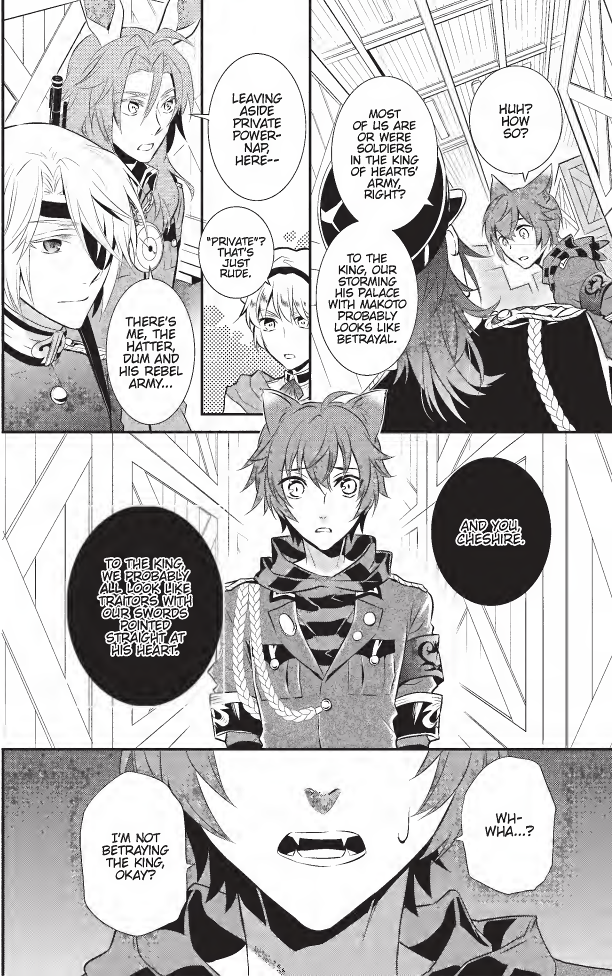

HUH? I THOUGHT THE KING CREATED THE MONSTERS.
THERE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN MONSTERS IN THIS LAND, AND IN THE BEGINNING, WE PROTECTED THE CITIZENRY FROM THEM.
BUT THE MONSTERS WEREN'T THIS FEROCIOUS BACK THEN.
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT!
BUT THEN THE KING SUDDENLY STARTED CONSPIRING WITH THE MONSTERS, YA KNOW?
AND THE WHOLE WORLD TURNED ALL TOPSY-TURVY.
REALLY?
MAYBE THERE'S SOME REASON WE'RE JUST NOT SEEING--

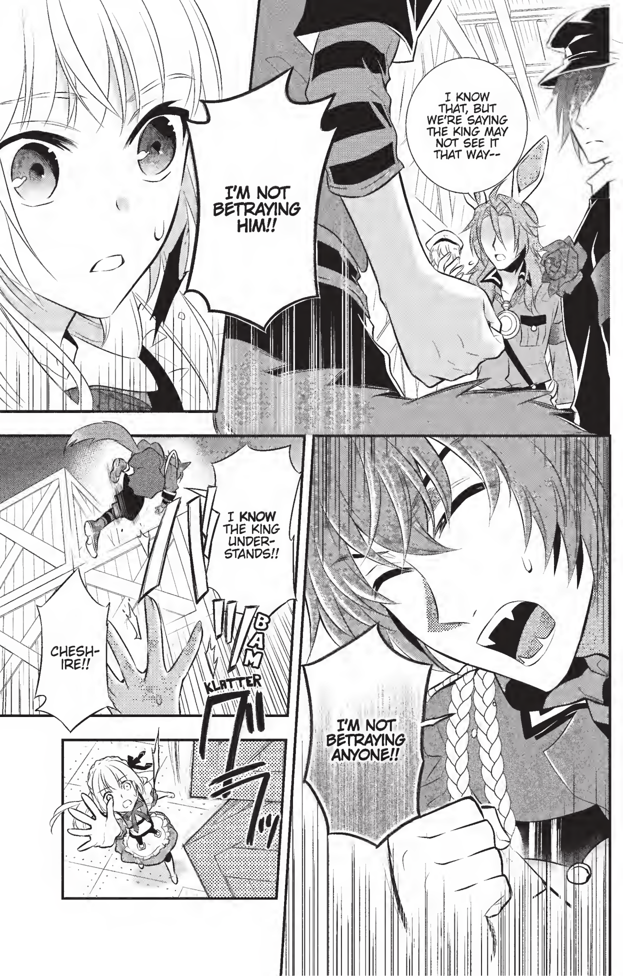

EEEEEEE!!
OH MY GOD! I'VE DIED AND GONE TO HEAVEN!!
AAAH! I WANNA SET UP HOUSEKEEPING HERE!
GREAT-- A GUN-HAPPY JUNE CLEAVER.
DON'T SUPPOSE I GET TO TAKE A FEW OF THESE BEAUTIES ALONG?
HELP YOURSELF. TAKE ANYTHING THAT CATCHES YOUR EYE.
HEY! ARE YOU REALLY ALLOWED TO DO THAT?
NOT A PROBLEM. THIS IS MY JURISDICTION.
NO, BUT I MEAN ISN'T IT ABUSING YOUR AUTH--

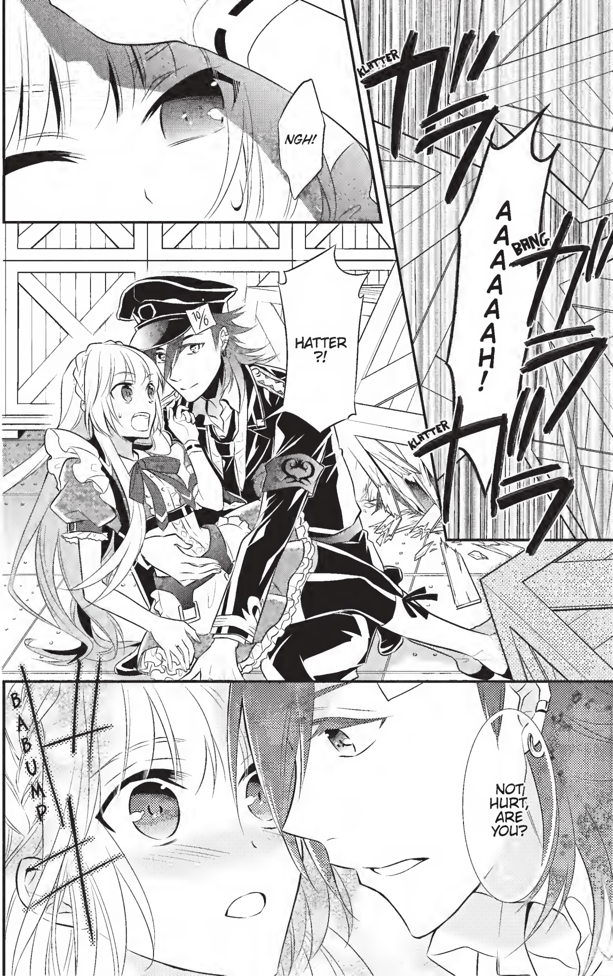

HEEEY! GUYS! OVER HERE!
THERE'S A SHORTCUT TO THE CASTLE UP AHEAD!
THERE SHOULDN'T BE ANYTHING UP AHEAD.
HUH? HATTER, YOU DIDN'T KNOW?
I GOTTA WONDER IF THIS REALLY IS YOUR JURISDICTION.
AND I'VE GOT TO WONDER IF THIS SHORTCUT OF YOURS EVEN EXISTS AT ALL.
Grrr
SEZ YOU! I BET I KNOW THE AREA AROUND THE PALACE BETTER THAN THE KING.
I MEAN, I WAS LIVING THERE WAAAAY BEFORE HE BECAME KING, AFTER ALL.

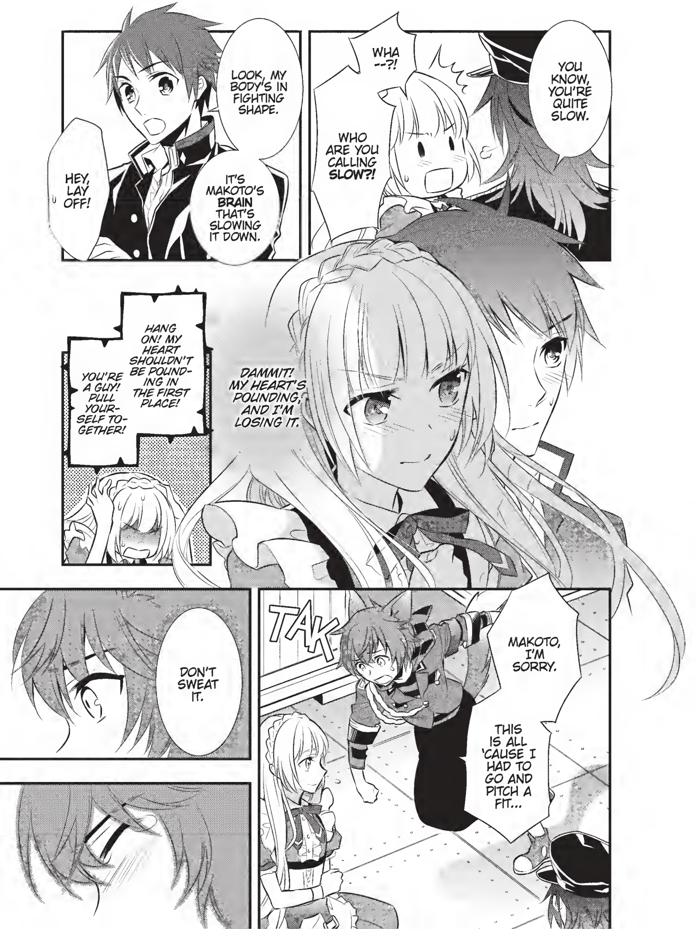

WHAT? YOU LIVED IN THE PALACE?
DON'T BE SO NOSY. WHAT GIVES?
I'm confused...
OH! YOU WERE KIDDING, WEREN'T YA?
YOU SHOULD NEVER ASK A **CAT** FOR THEIR FIXED ADDRESS.
A CAT? I THOUGHT YOU JUST HAVE THE EARS AND TAIL.
OH, CHESHIRE WAS AN ACTUAL CAT A LONG TIME AGO.
WHAT?!
YUP, TRUE STORY! I WAS A PET AT THE PALACE.
BUT I LIVED A REALLY LONG TIME AND TURNED INTO A PERSON.
HONESTLY... NOTHING IN THIS WORLD REALLY SURPRISES ME ANYMORE.
NO KIDDING...

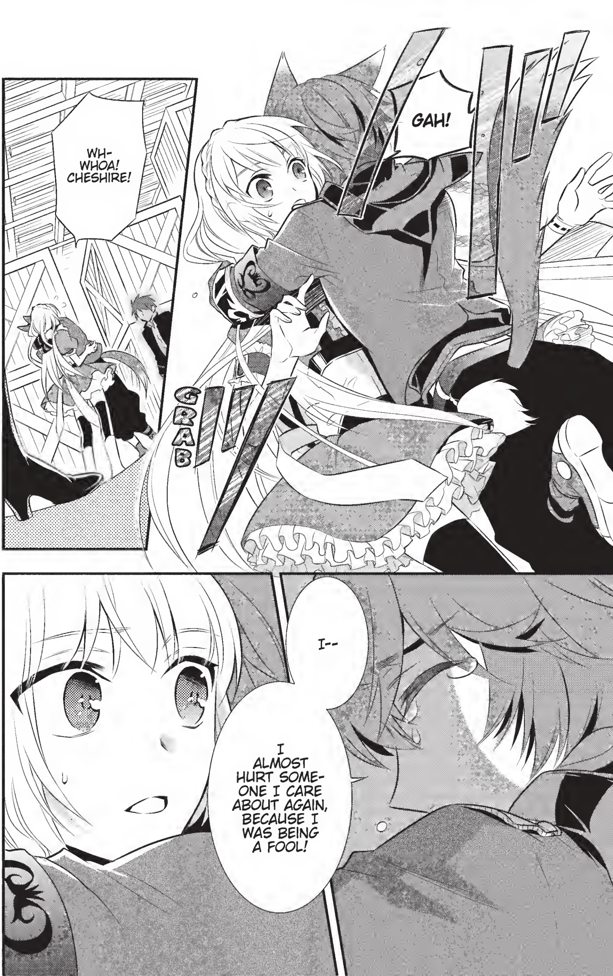

BACK WHEN I WAS STILL A CAT, THE KING WAS SUPER NICE.
10/6
NOT THAT I DON'T STILL LOVE HIM NOW.
IT'S JUST THAT HE TURNED **WEIRD** AFTER THAT TIME...
"THAT TIME"?
HE DIDN'T TELL ME ALL THE DETAILS...
BUT APPARENTLY, HE WAS **BETRAYED** BY SOMEONE CLOSE TO HIM.
BETRAYED, HM...?
ONE COULD SAY THAT WE'RE ALL BETRAYING HIM RIGHT NOW.

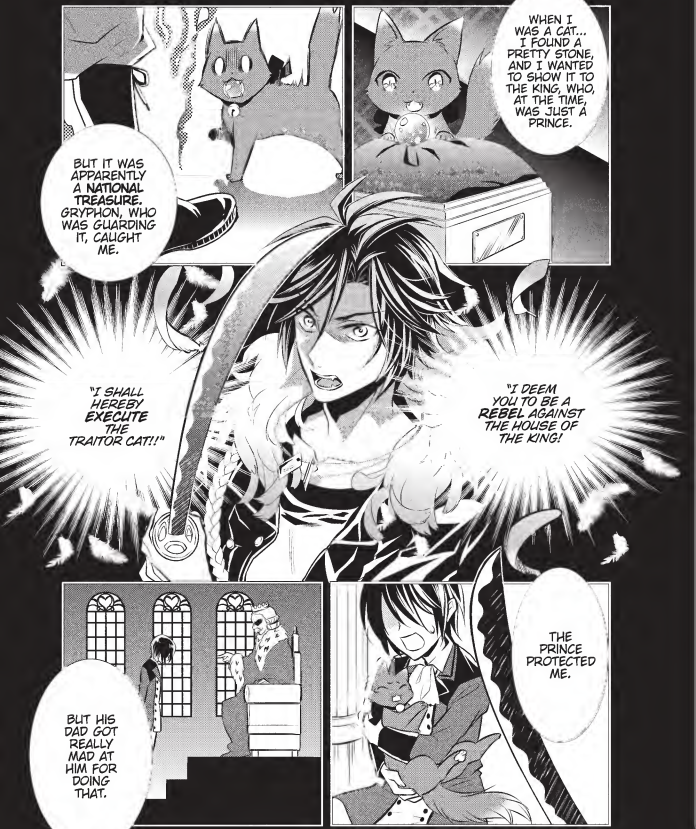

HUH? HOW SO?
MOST OF US ARE OR WERE SOLDIERS IN THE KING OF HEARTS' ARMY, RIGHT?
TO THE KING, OUR STORMING HIS PALACE WITH MAKOTO PROBABLY LOOKS LIKE BETRAYAL.
LEAVING ASIDE PRIVATE POWER-NAP, HERE--
"PRIVATE"? THAT'S JUST RUDE.
THERE'S ME, THE HATTER, DUM AND HIS REBEL ARMY...
AND YOU, CHESHIRE.
TO THE KING, WE PROBABLY ALL LOOK LIKE TRAITORS WITH OUR SWORDS POINTED STRAIGHT AT HIS HEART.
WH- WHA...?
I'M NOT BETRAYING THE KING, OKAY?

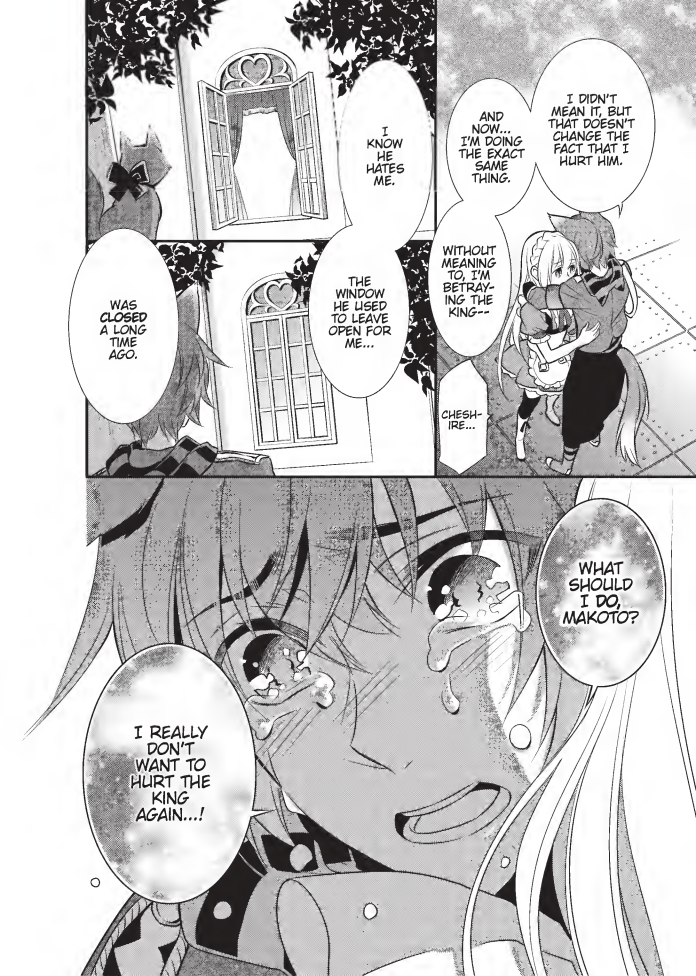

I KNOW THAT, BUT WE'RE SAYING THE KING MAY NOT SEE IT THAT WAY--
I'M NOT BETRAYING HIM!!
I'M NOT BETRAYING ANYONE!!
I KNOW THE KING UNDER-STANDS!!
BAM
KLATTER
CHESH-IRE!!

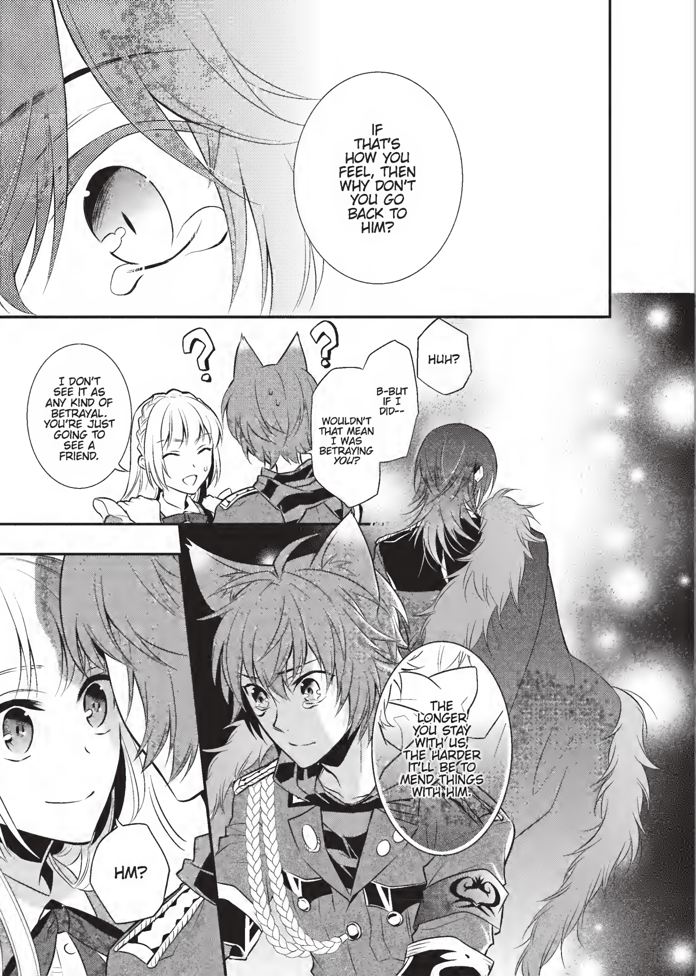

KLATTER
ガラ
NGH!
AAAAAAAAH!
BANG
ガラ
KLATTER
ガラ
HATTER?!
NOT HURT, ARE YOU?
BABUMP

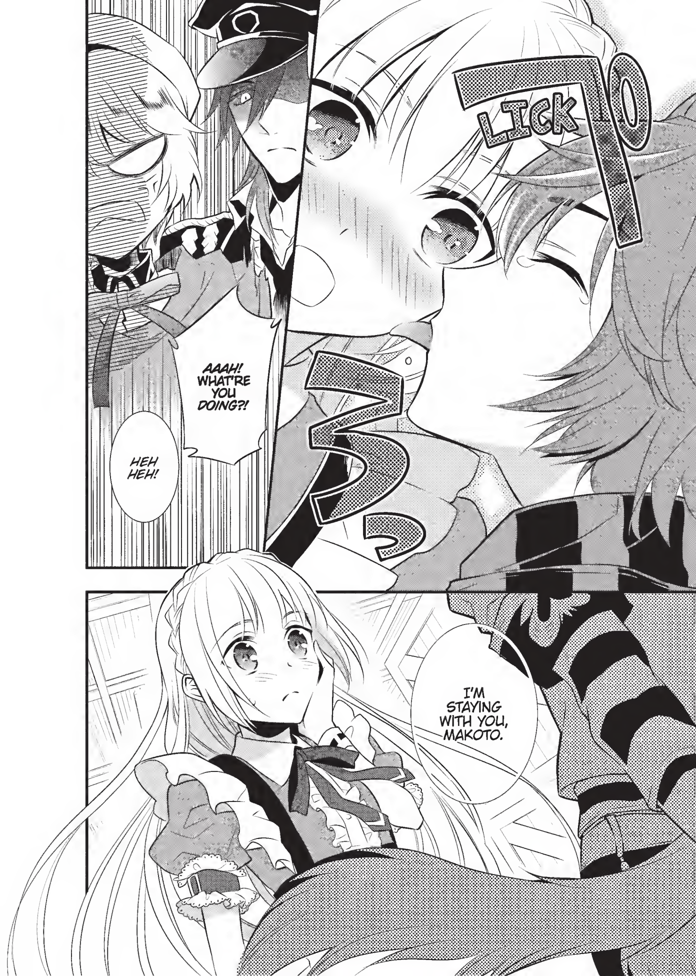

YOU KNOW, YOU'RE QUITE SLOW.
WHA--?!
WHO ARE YOU CALLING **SLOW?!**
LOOK, MY BODY'S IN FIGHTING SHAPE.
IT'S MAKOTO'S **BRAIN** THAT'S SLOWING IT DOWN.
HEY, LAY OFF!
DAMMIT! MY HEART'S POUNDING, AND I'M LOSING IT.
HANG ON! MY HEART SHOULDN'T BE POUNDING IN THE FIRST PLACE!
YOU'RE A GUY! PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER!
TAK
MAKOTO, I'M SORRY.
THIS IS ALL 'CAUSE I HAD TO GO AND PITCH A FIT...
DON'T SWEAT IT.

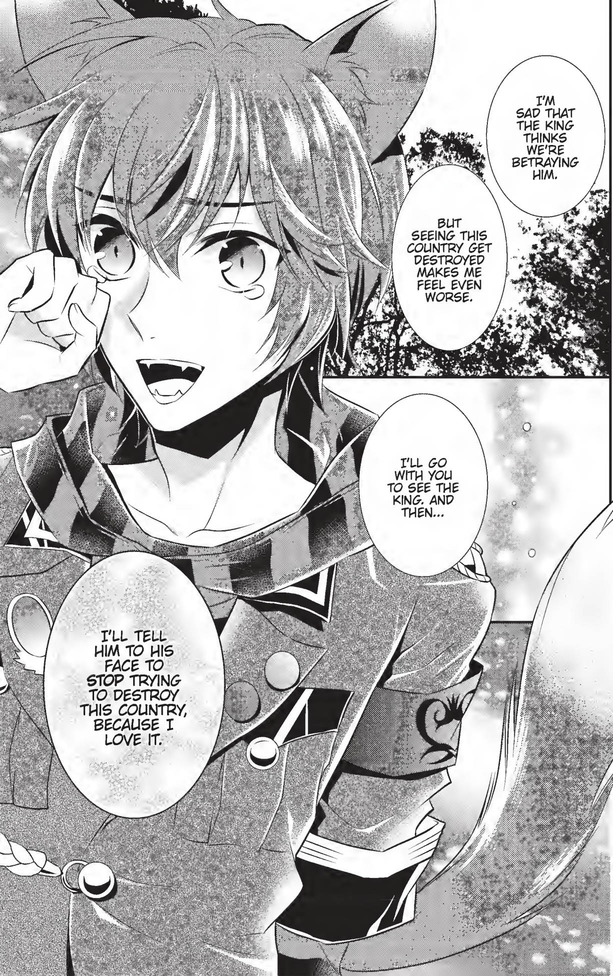

GAH!
GRAB
WH-WHOA! CHESHIRE!
I--
I ALMOST HURT SOMEONE I CARE ABOUT AGAIN, BECAUSE I WAS BEING A FOOL!

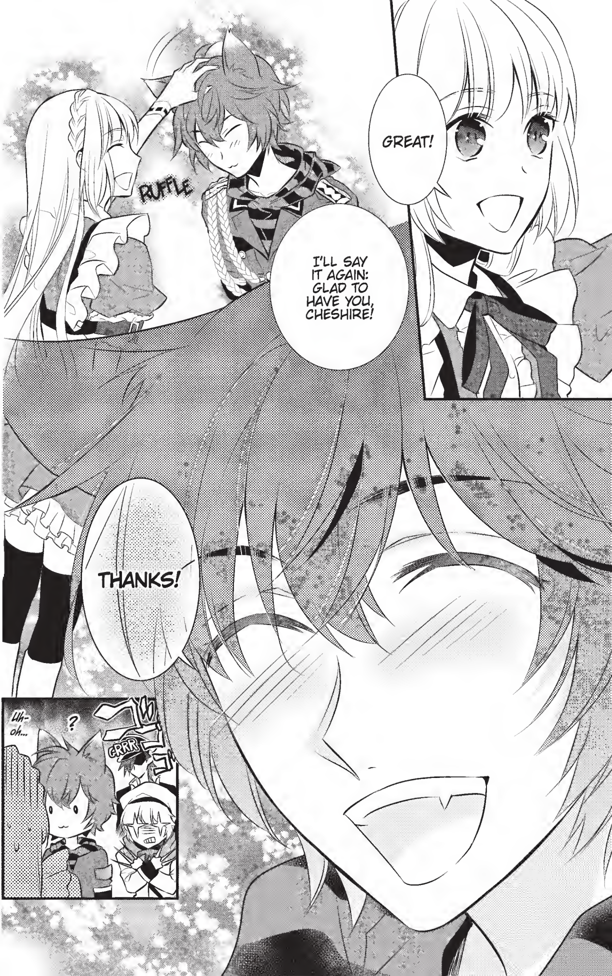

WHEN I WAS A CAT... I FOUND A PRETTY STONE, AND I WANTED TO SHOW IT TO THE KING, WHO, AT THE TIME, WAS JUST A PRINCE.
BUT IT WAS APPARENTLY A **NATIONAL TREASURE.** GRYPHON, WHO WAS GUARDING IT, CAUGHT ME.
*"I DEEM YOU TO BE A **REBEL** AGAINST THE HOUSE OF THE KING!*
*"I SHALL HEREBY **EXECUTE** THE TRAITOR CAT!!"*
THE PRINCE PROTECTED ME.
BUT HIS DAD GOT REALLY MAD AT HIM FOR DOING THAT.


I DIDN'T MEAN IT, BUT THAT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT I HURT HIM.
AND NOW... I'M DOING THE EXACT SAME THING.
WITHOUT MEANING TO, I'M BETRAYING THE KING--
CHESHIRE...
I KNOW HE HATES ME.
THE WINDOW HE USED TO LEAVE OPEN FOR ME...
WAS **CLOSED** A LONG TIME AGO.
WHAT SHOULD I DO, MAKOTO?
I REALLY DON'T WANT TO HURT THE KING AGAIN...!


IF THAT'S HOW YOU FEEL, THEN WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK TO HIM?
HUH?
B-BUT IF I DID--
WOULDN'T THAT MEAN I WAS BETRAYING *YOU?*
I DON'T SEE IT AS ANY KIND OF BETRAYAL. YOU'RE JUST GOING TO SEE A FRIEND.
THE LONGER YOU STAY WITH US, THE HARDER IT'LL BE TO MEND THINGS WITH HIM.
HM?


ぺろっ
LICK
AAAH! WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
HEH HEH!
I'M STAYING WITH YOU, MAKOTO.


I'M SAD THAT THE KING THINKS WE'RE BETRAYING HIM.
BUT SEEING THIS COUNTRY GET DESTROYED MAKES ME FEEL EVEN WORSE.
I'LL GO WITH YOU TO SEE THE KING. AND THEN...
I'LL TELL HIM TO HIS FACE TO STOP TRYING TO DESTROY THIS COUNTRY, BECAUSE I LOVE IT.

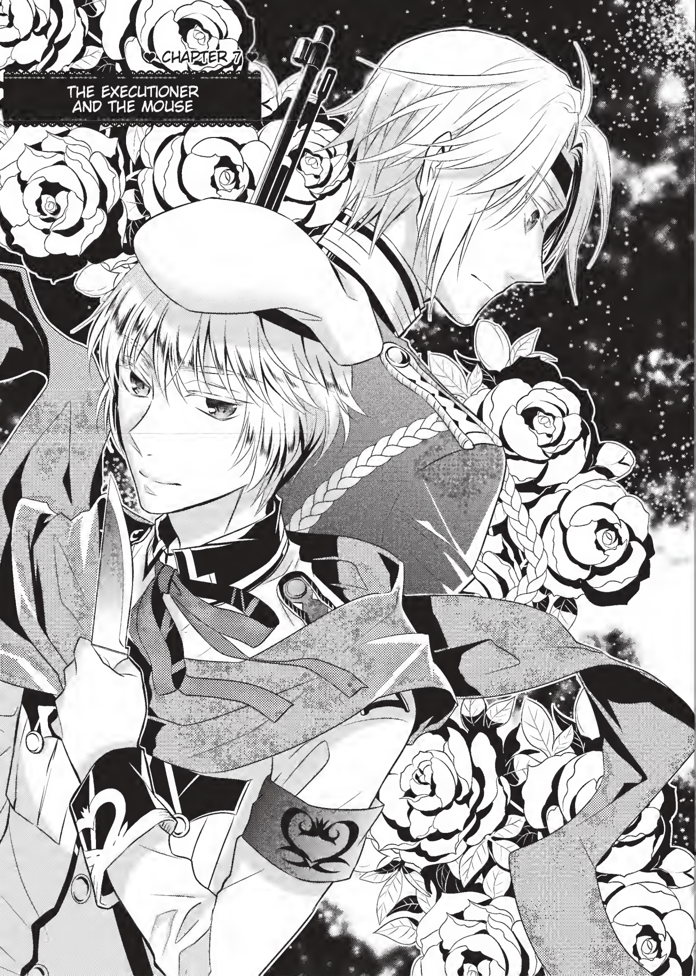

GREAT!
I'LL SAY IT AGAIN: GLAD TO HAVE YOU, CHESHIRE!
RUFFLE
THANKS!
ゴゴゴ
GRRR
?
Uh-oh...

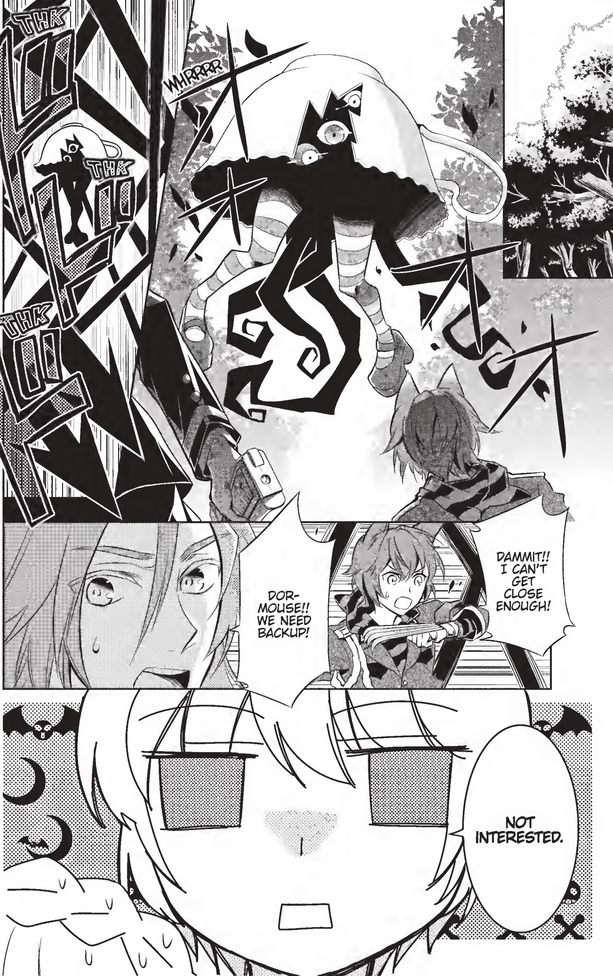
I AM ALICE

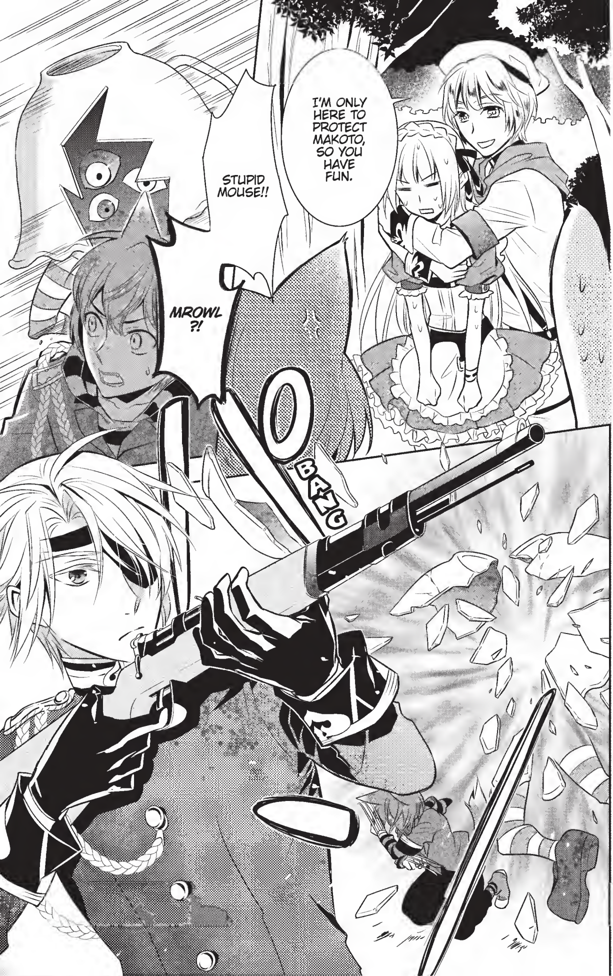
I AM ALICE

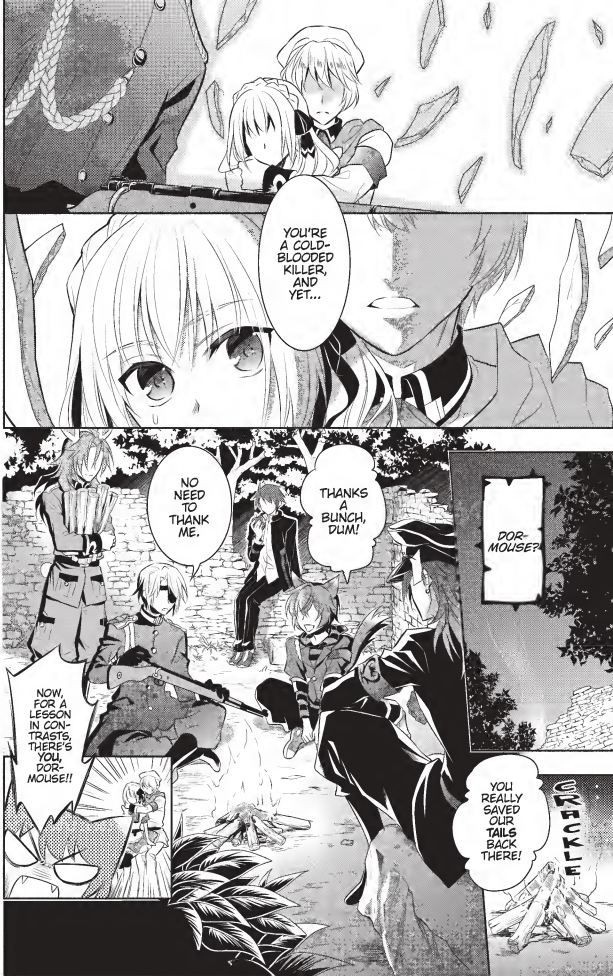
CHAPTER 7

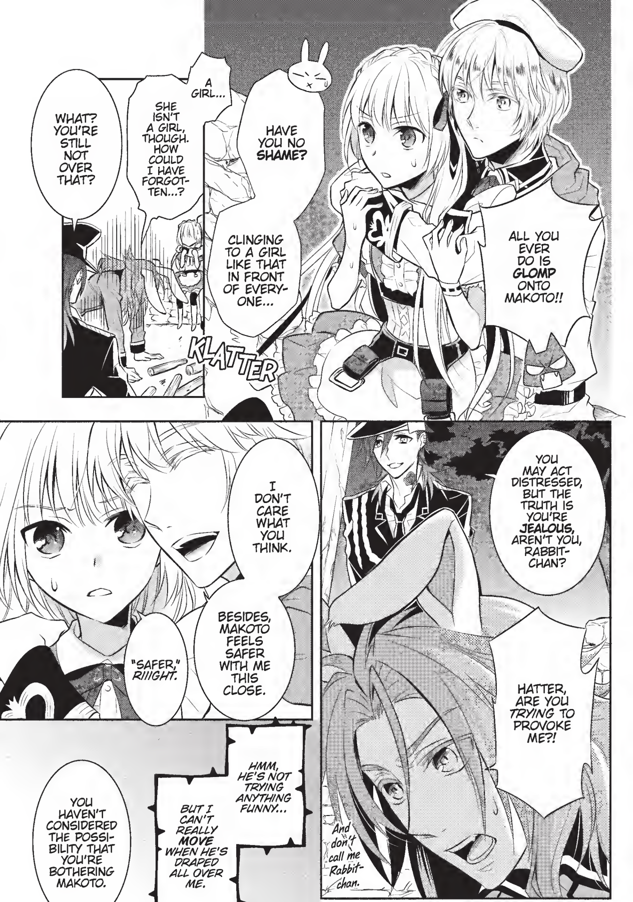
THE EXECUTIONER AND THE MOUSE

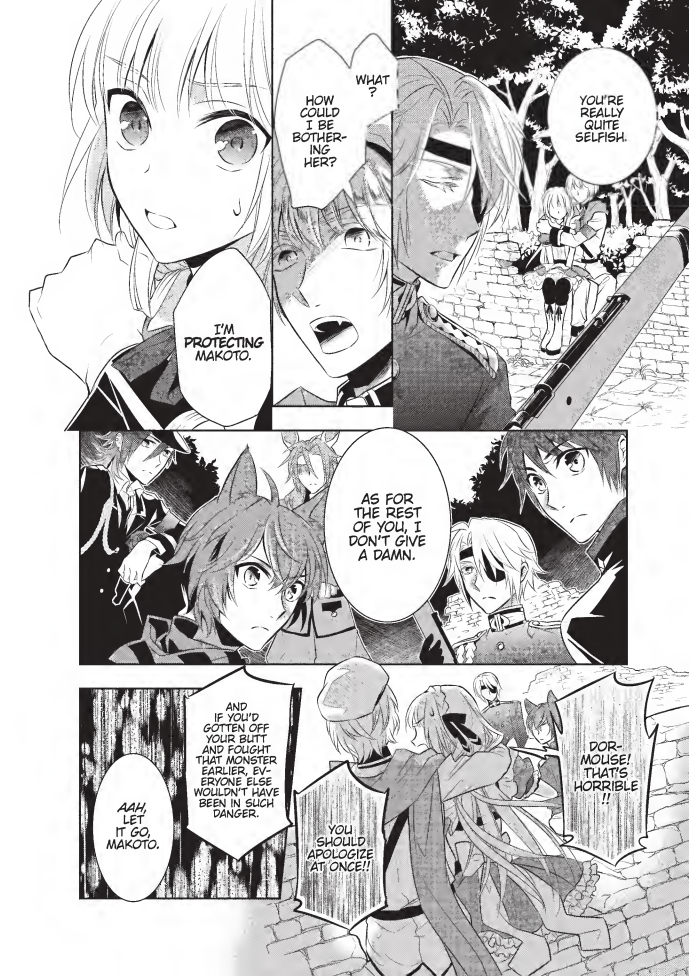


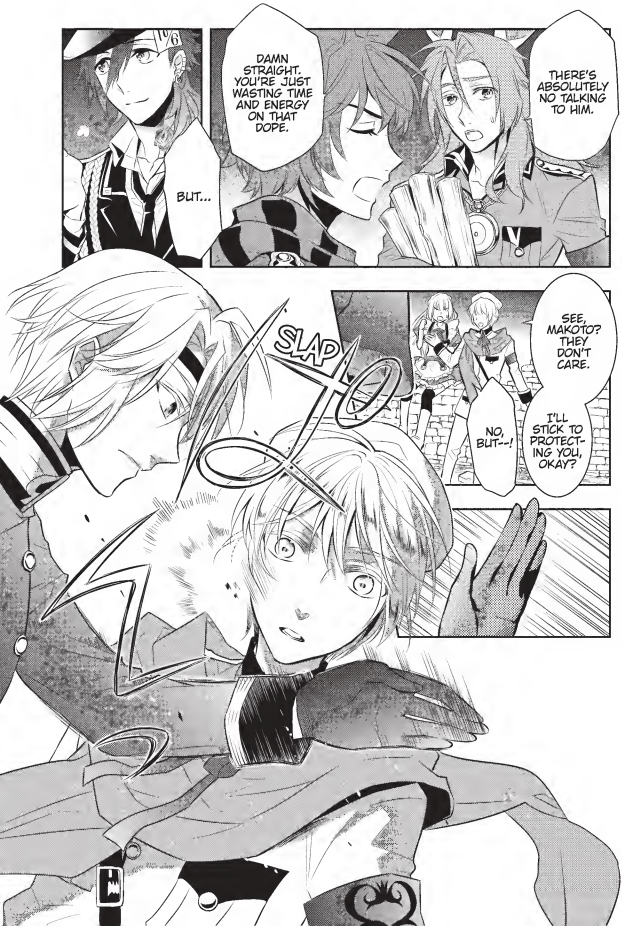

WHRRRR
THK
THK
THK
DAMMIT!! I CAN'T GET CLOSE ENOUGH!
DOR-MOUSE!! WE NEED BACKUP!
NOT INTERESTED.

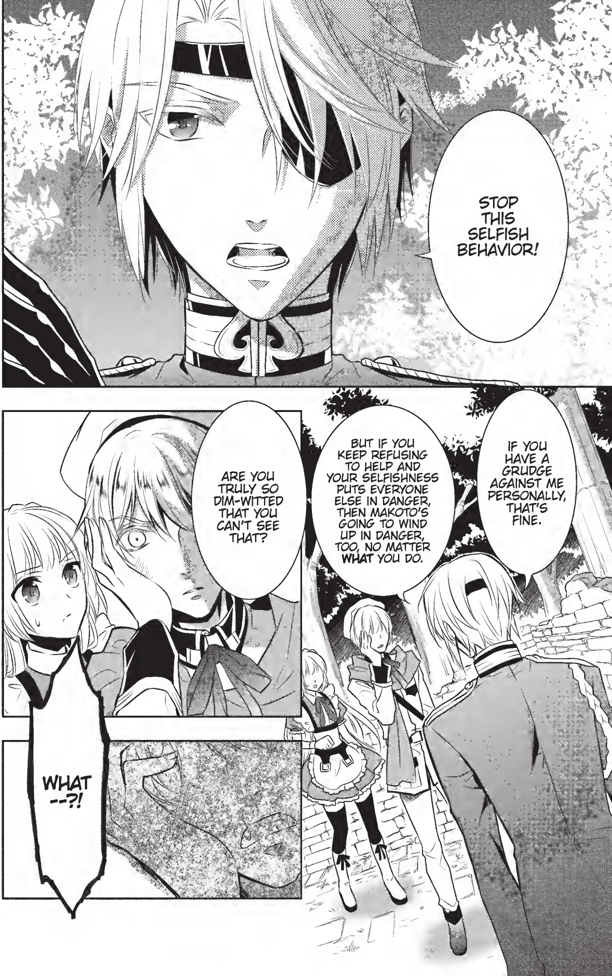

I'M ONLY HERE TO PROTECT MAKOTO, SO YOU HAVE FUN.
STUPID MOUSE!!
MROWL ?!
BANG

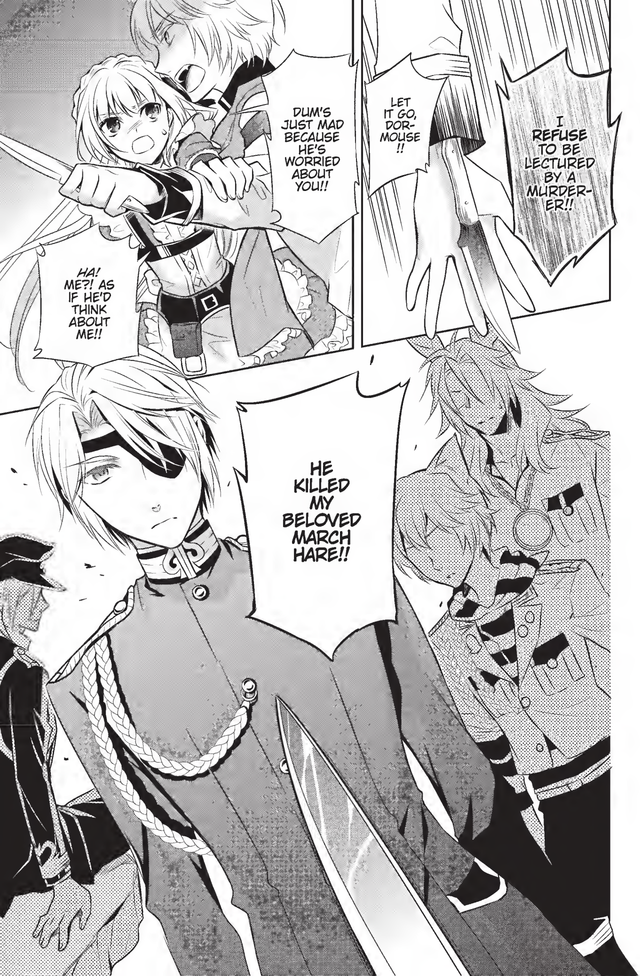

YOU'RE A COLD-BLOODED KILLER, AND YET...
DORMOUSE?
CRACKLE
YOU REALLY SAVED OUR **TAILS** BACK THERE!
THANKS A BUNCH, DUM!
NO NEED TO THANK ME.
NOW, FOR A LESSON IN CONTRASTS, THERE'S **YOU**, DORMOUSE!!

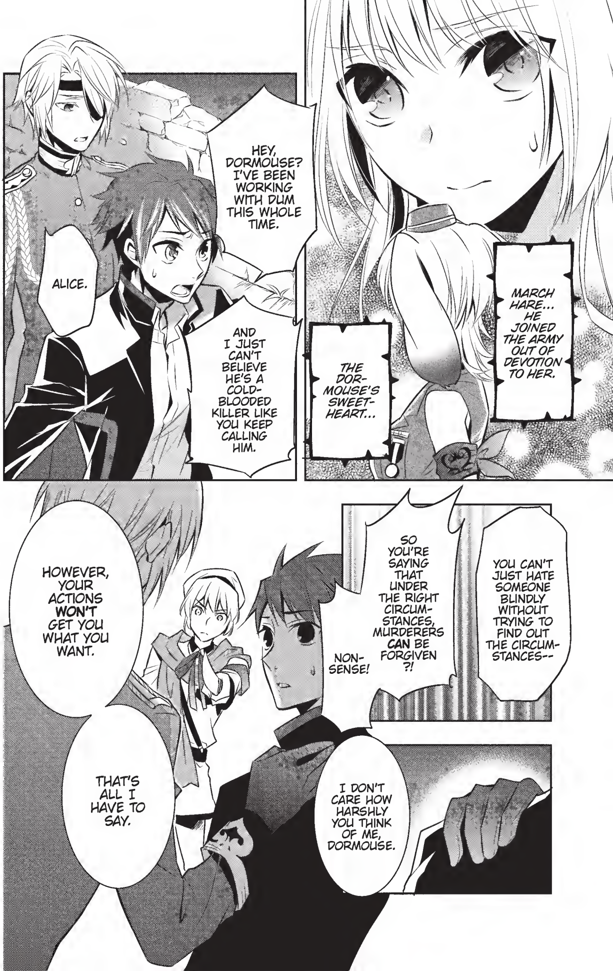

ALL YOU EVER DO IS GLOMP ONTO MAKOTO!!
HAVE YOU NO SHAME?
CLINGING TO A GIRL LIKE THAT IN FRONT OF EVERYONE...
KLATTER
A GIRL...
SHE ISN'T A GIRL, THOUGH. HOW COULD I HAVE FORGOTTEN...?
WHAT? YOU'RE STILL NOT OVER THAT?
YOU MAY ACT DISTRESSED, BUT THE TRUTH IS YOU'RE JEALOUS, AREN'T YOU, RABBIT-CHAN?
HATTER, ARE YOU TRYING TO PROVOKE ME?!
And don't call me Rabbit-chan.
I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU THINK.
BESIDES, MAKOTO FEELS SAFER WITH ME THIS CLOSE.
"SAFER," RIIIGHT.
HMM, HE'S NOT TRYING ANYTHING FUNNY...
BUT I CAN'T REALLY MOVE WHEN HE'S DRAPED ALL OVER ME.
YOU HAVEN'T CONSIDERED THE POSSIBILITY THAT YOU'RE BOTHERING MAKOTO.

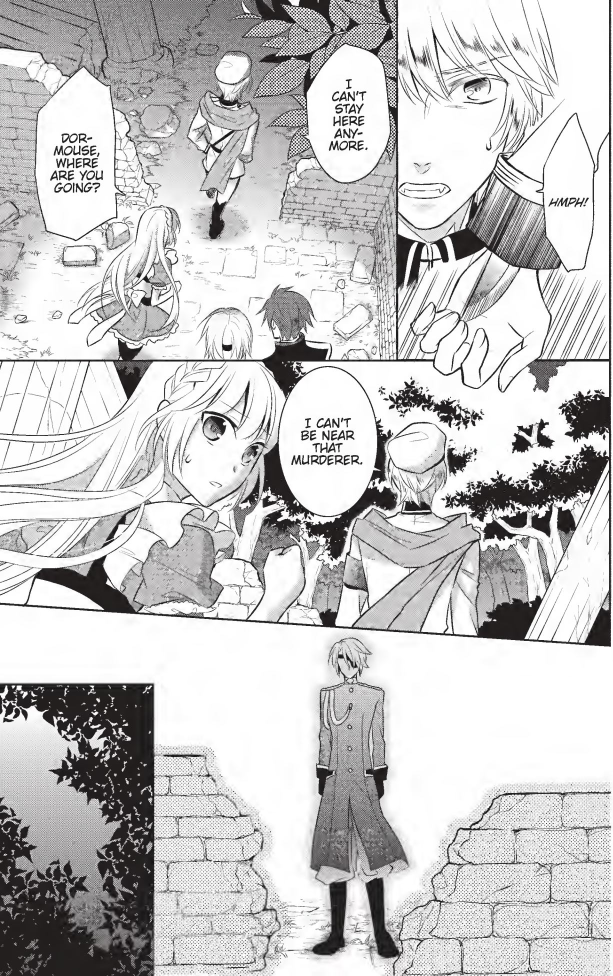

YOU'RE REALLY QUITE SELFISH.
WHAT? HOW COULD I BE BOTHERING HER?
I'M **PROTECTING** MAKOTO.
AS FOR THE REST OF YOU, I DON'T GIVE A DAMN.
DORMOUSE! THAT'S HORRIBLE!!
YOU SHOULD APOLOGIZE AT ONCE!!
AND IF YOU'D GOTTEN OFF YOUR BUTT AND FOUGHT THAT MONSTER EARLIER, EVERYONE ELSE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN IN SUCH DANGER.
AAH, LET IT GO, MAKOTO.

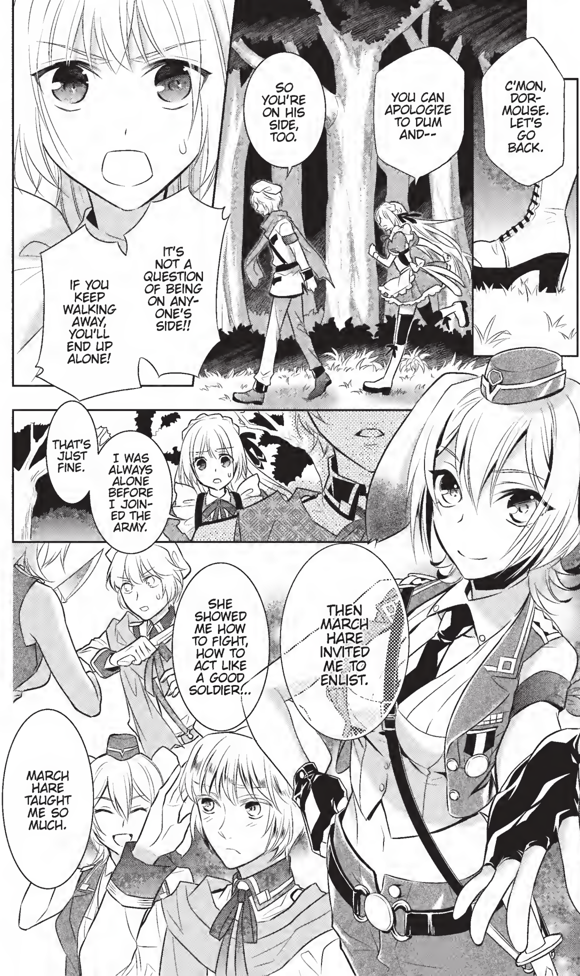

THERE'S ABSOLUTELY NO TALKING TO HIM.
DAMN STRAIGHT. YOU'RE JUST WASTING TIME AND ENERGY ON THAT DOPE.
BUT...
SEE, MAKOTO? THEY DON'T CARE.
I'LL STICK TO PROTECTING YOU, OKAY?
NO, BUT--!
SLAP

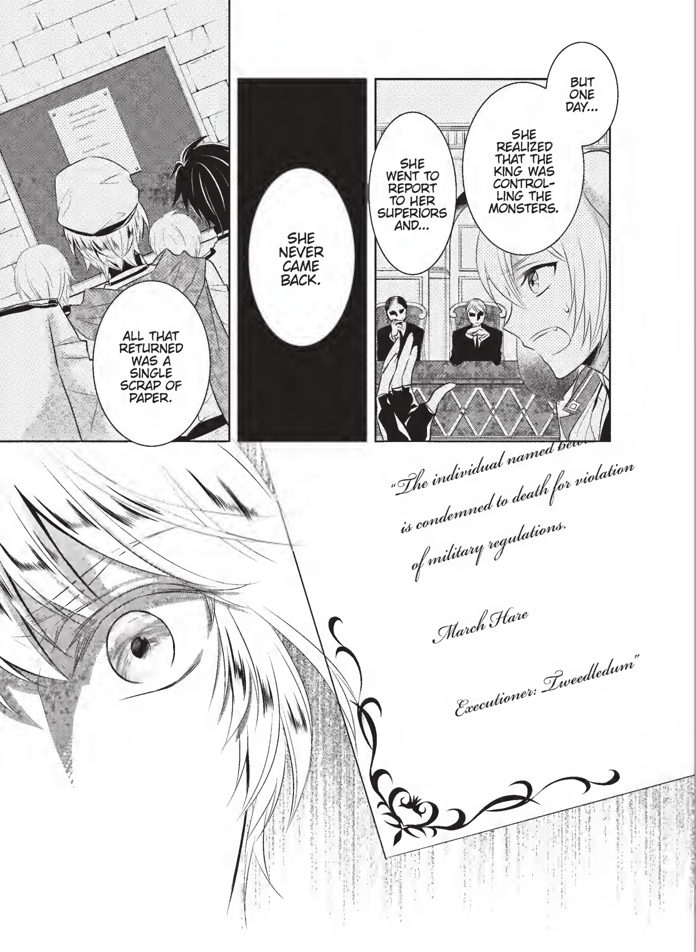

STOP THIS SELFISH BEHAVIOR!
IF YOU HAVE A GRUDGE AGAINST ME PERSONALLY, THAT'S FINE.
BUT IF YOU KEEP REFUSING TO HELP AND YOUR SELFISHNESS PUTS EVERYONE ELSE IN DANGER, THEN MAKOTO'S GOING TO WIND UP IN DANGER, TOO, NO MATTER **WHAT** YOU DO.
ARE YOU TRULY SO DIM-WITTED THAT YOU CAN'T SEE THAT?
WHAT--?!


I REFUSE TO BE LECTURED BY A MURDERER!!
LET IT GO, DORMOUSE!!
DUM'S JUST MAD BECAUSE HE'S WORRIED ABOUT YOU!!
HA! ME?! AS IF HE'D THINK ABOUT ME!!
HE KILLED MY BELOVED MARCH HARE!!


MARCH HARE... HE JOINED THE ARMY OUT OF DEVOTION TO HER.
THE DORMOUSE'S SWEETHEART...
HEY, DORMOUSE? I'VE BEEN WORKING WITH DUM THIS WHOLE TIME.
AND I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE HE'S A COLD-BLOODED KILLER LIKE YOU KEEP CALLING HIM.
ALICE.
YOU CAN'T JUST HATE SOMEONE BLINDLY WITHOUT TRYING TO FIND OUT THE CIRCUMSTANCES--
SO YOU'RE SAYING THAT UNDER THE RIGHT CIRCUMSTANCES, MURDERERS **CAN** BE FORGIVEN?!
NONSENSE!
I DON'T CARE HOW HARSHLY YOU THINK OF ME, DORMOUSE.
HOWEVER, YOUR ACTIONS **WON'T** GET YOU WHAT YOU WANT.
THAT'S ALL I HAVE TO SAY.


HMPH!
DORMOUSE, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
I CAN'T STAY HERE ANYMORE.
I CAN'T BE NEAR THAT MURDERER.

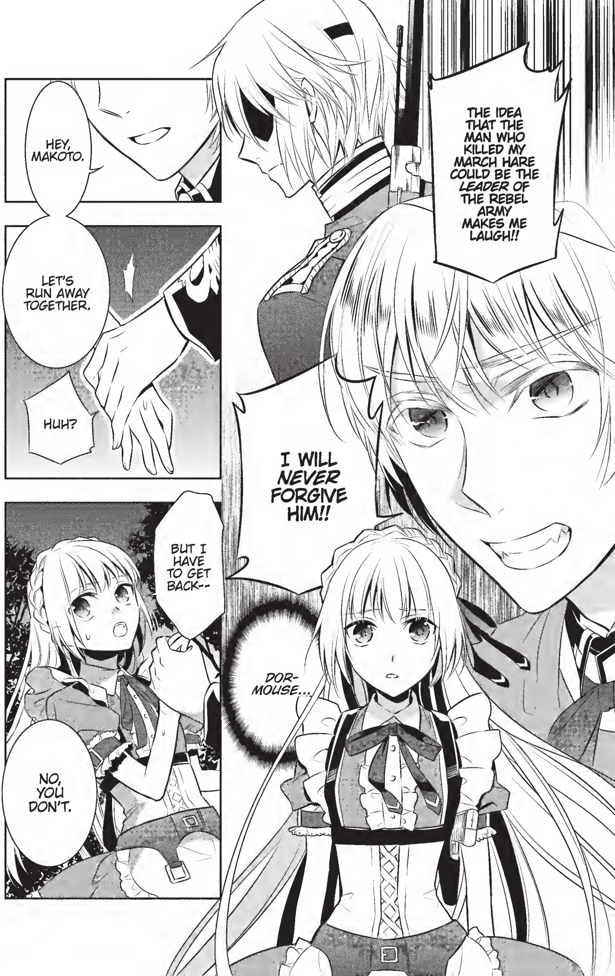

C'MON, DORMOUSE. LET'S GO BACK.
YOU CAN APOLOGIZE TO DUM AND--
SO YOU'RE ON HIS SIDE, TOO.
IT'S NOT A QUESTION OF BEING ON ANYONE'S SIDE!!
IF YOU KEEP WALKING AWAY, YOU'LL END UP ALONE!
I WAS ALWAYS ALONE BEFORE I JOINED THE ARMY.
THAT'S JUST FINE.
THEN MARCH HARE INVITED ME TO ENLIST.
SHE SHOWED ME HOW TO FIGHT, HOW TO ACT LIKE A GOOD SOLDIER...
MARCH HARE TAUGHT ME SO MUCH.

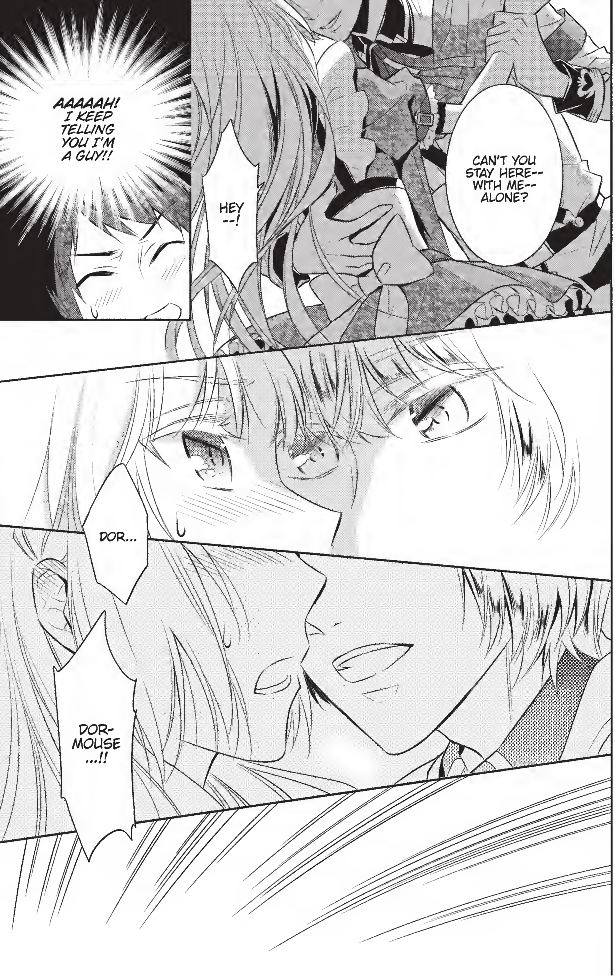

BUT ONE DAY...
SHE REALIZED THAT THE KING WAS CONTROLLING THE MONSTERS.
SHE WENT TO REPORT TO HER SUPERIORS AND...
SHE NEVER CAME BACK.
ALL THAT RETURNED WAS A SINGLE SCRAP OF PAPER.

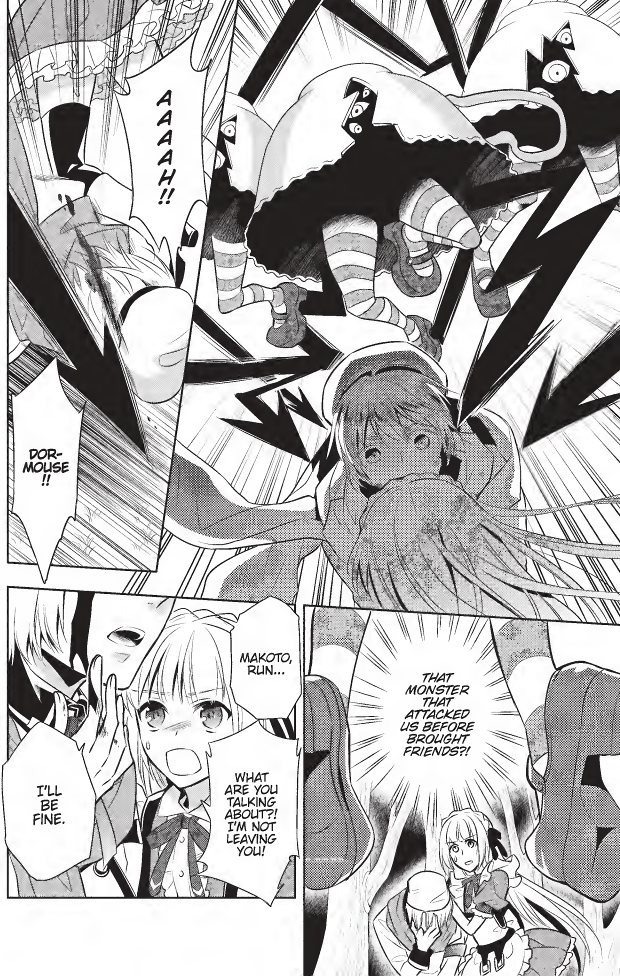
"The individual named belo
is condemned to death for violation
of military regulations.

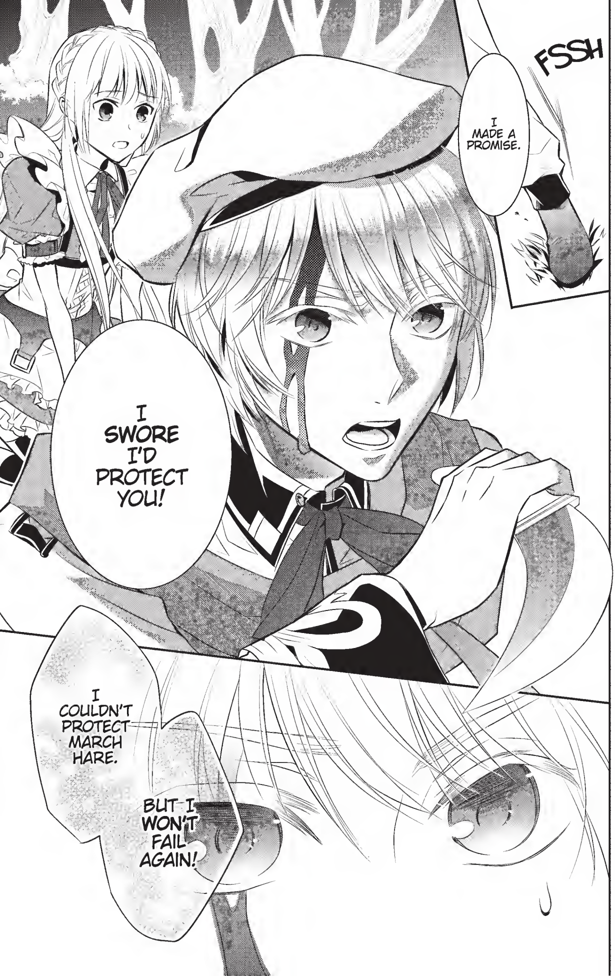
March Hare

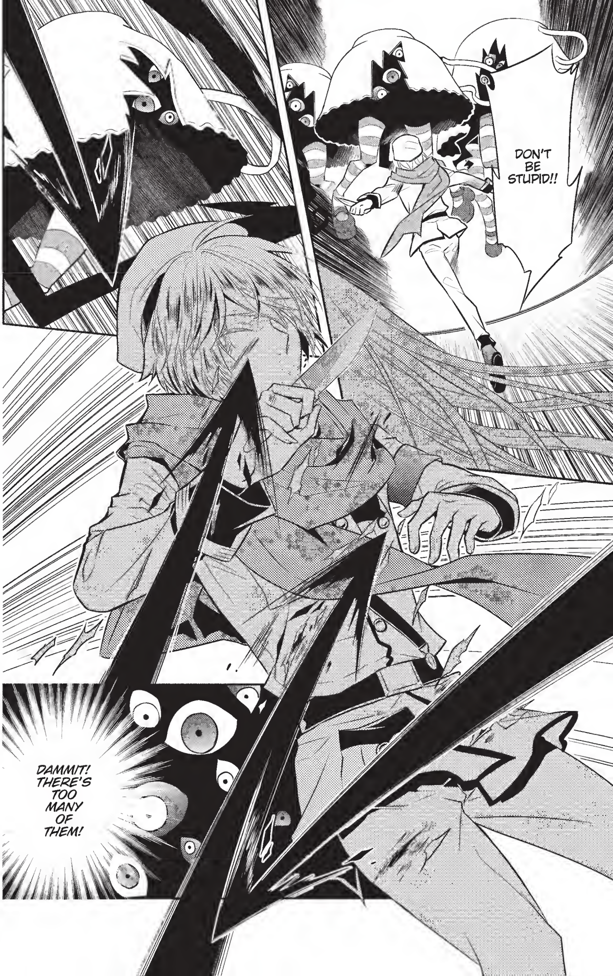
Executioner: Tweedledum"

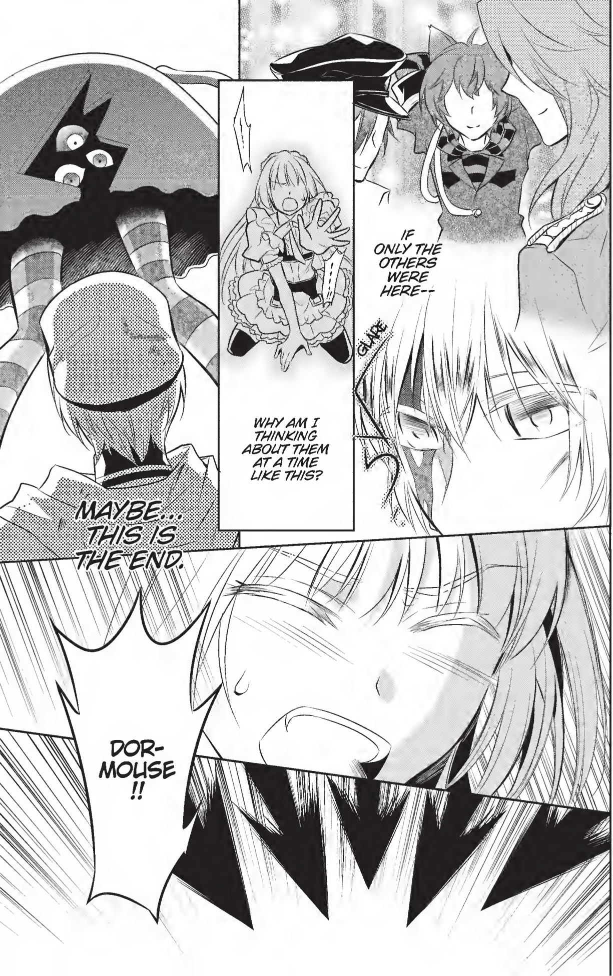

THE IDEA THAT THE MAN WHO KILLED MY MARCH HARE COULD BE THE *LEADER* OF THE REBEL ARMY MAKES ME LAUGH!!
I WILL *NEVER* FORGIVE HIM!!
DOR-MOUSE...
HEY, MAKOTO.
LET'S RUN AWAY TOGETHER.
HUH?
BUT I HAVE TO GET BACK--
NO, YOU DON'T.

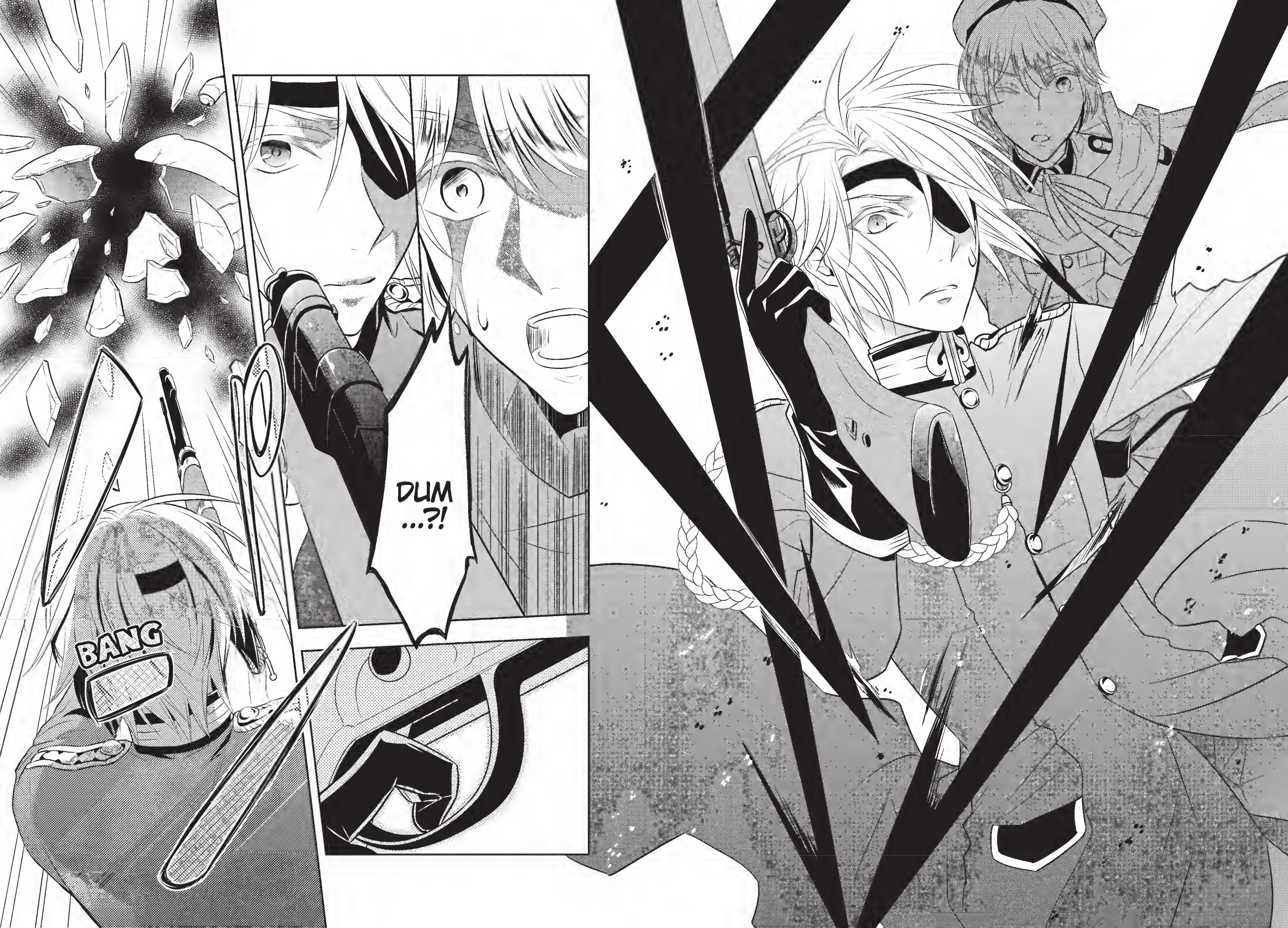

CAN'T YOU STAY HERE-- WITH ME-- ALONE?
HEY --!
AAAAAH! I KEEP TELLING YOU I'M A GUY!!
DOR...
DOR-MOUSE ...!!

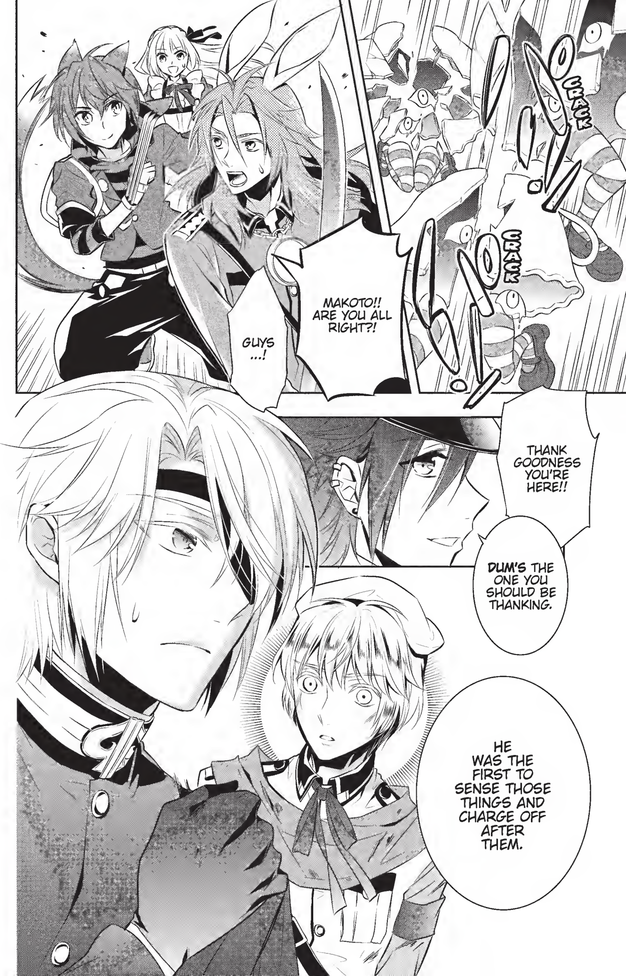

AAAAAH!!
DORMOUSE!!
THAT MONSTER THAT ATTACKED US BEFORE BROUGHT FRIENDS?!
MAKOTO, RUN...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! I'M NOT LEAVING YOU!
I'LL BE FINE.

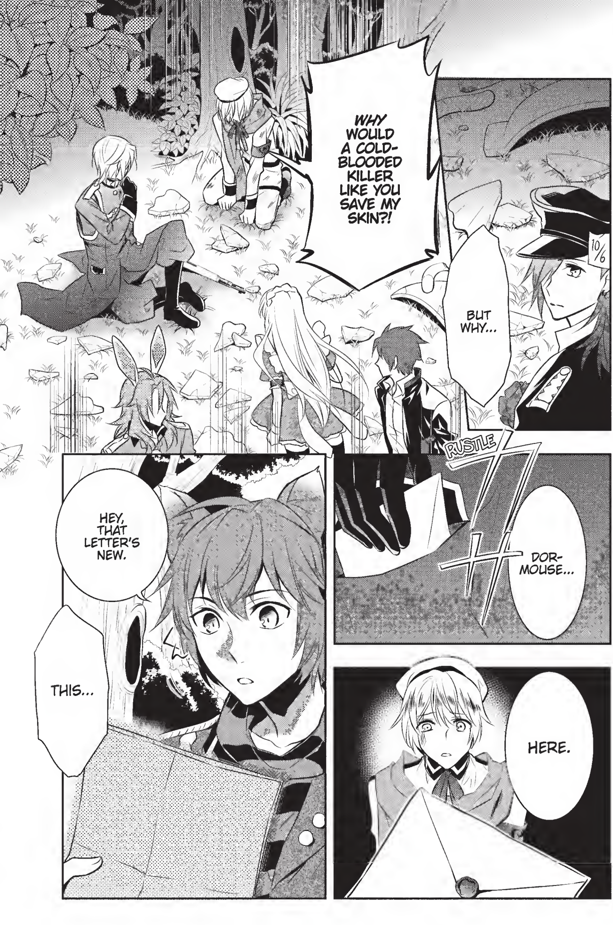

FSSH
I MADE A PROMISE.
I SWORE I'D PROTECT YOU!
I COULDN'T PROTECT MARCH HARE.
BUT I WON'T FAIL AGAIN!

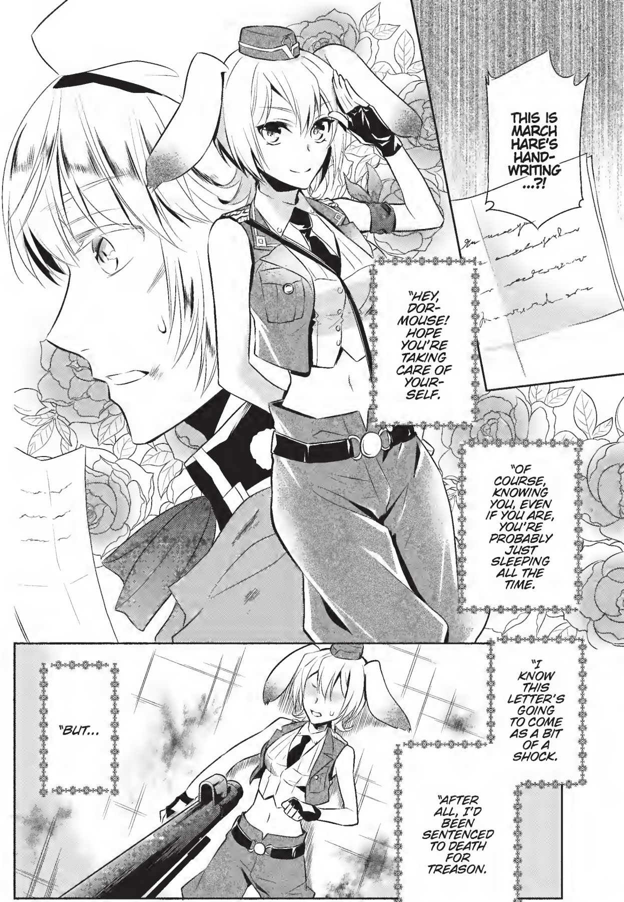

DON'T BE STUPID!!
DAMMIT! THERE'S TOO MANY OF THEM!

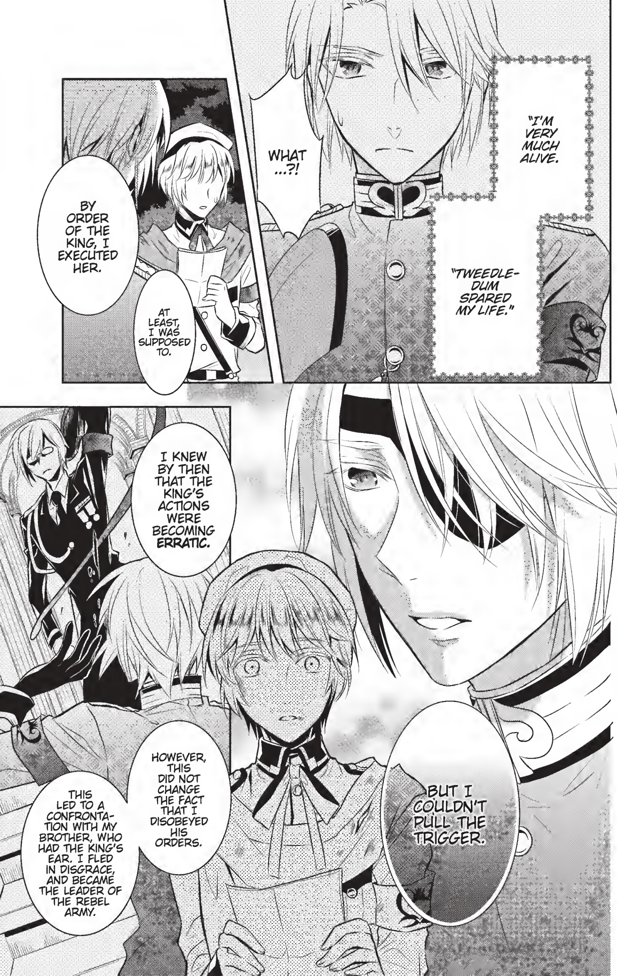

IF ONLY THE OTHERS WERE HERE--
GLARE
WHY AM I THINKING ABOUT THEM AT A TIME LIKE THIS?
MAYBE... THIS IS THE END.
DOR-MOUSE !!

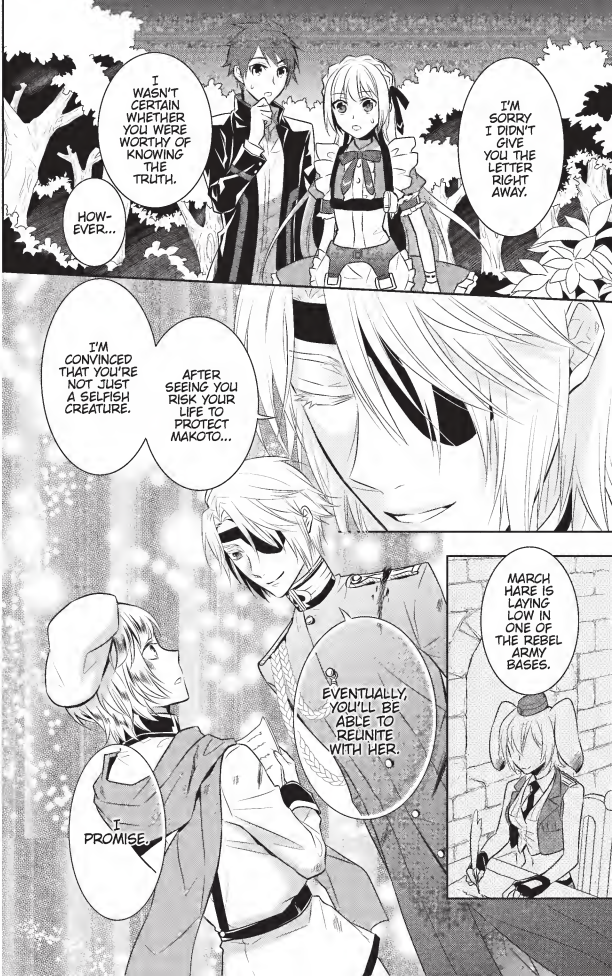

DUM ...?!
BANG

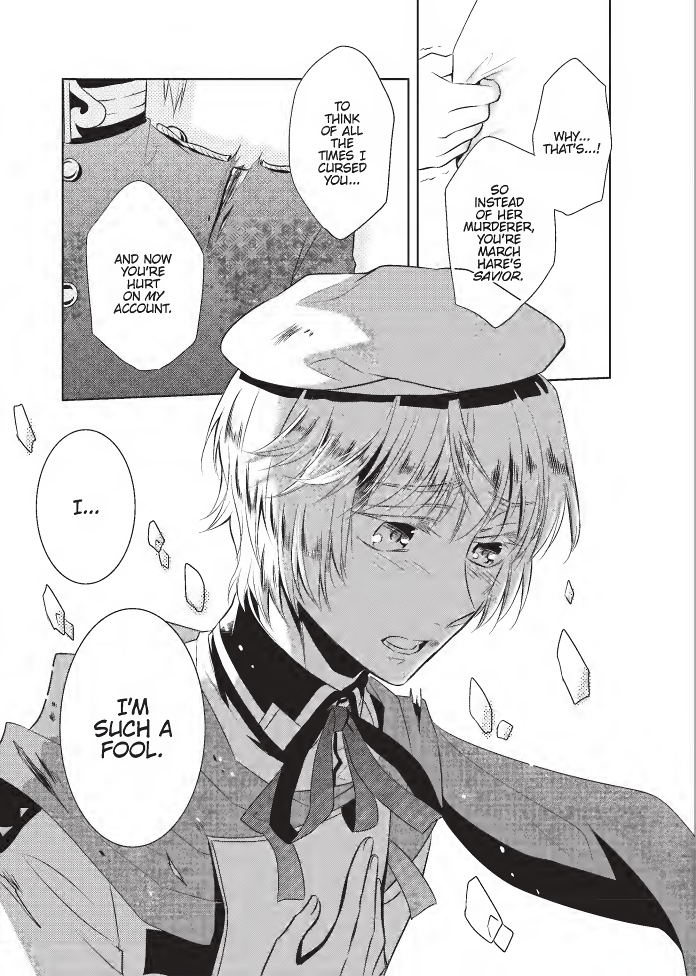

CRACK
CRACK
MAKOTO!! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
GUYS ...!
THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE HERE!!
DUM'S THE ONE YOU SHOULD BE THANKING.
HE WAS THE FIRST TO SENSE THOSE THINGS AND CHARGE OFF AFTER THEM.

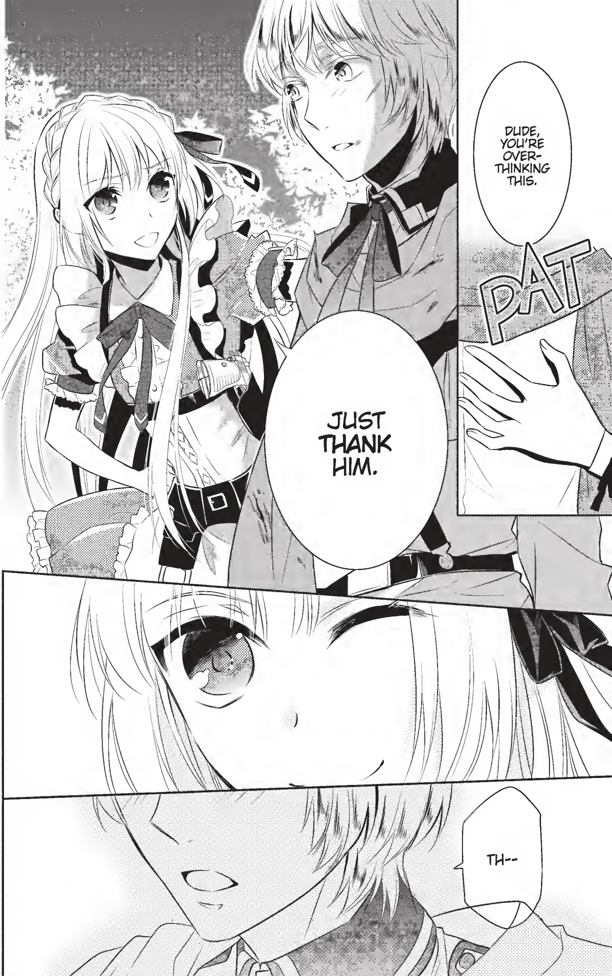

BUT WHY...
WHY WOULD A COLD-BLOODED KILLER LIKE YOU SAVE MY SKIN?!
RUSTLE
DOR-MOUSE...
HERE.
HEY, THAT LETTER'S NEW.
THIS...

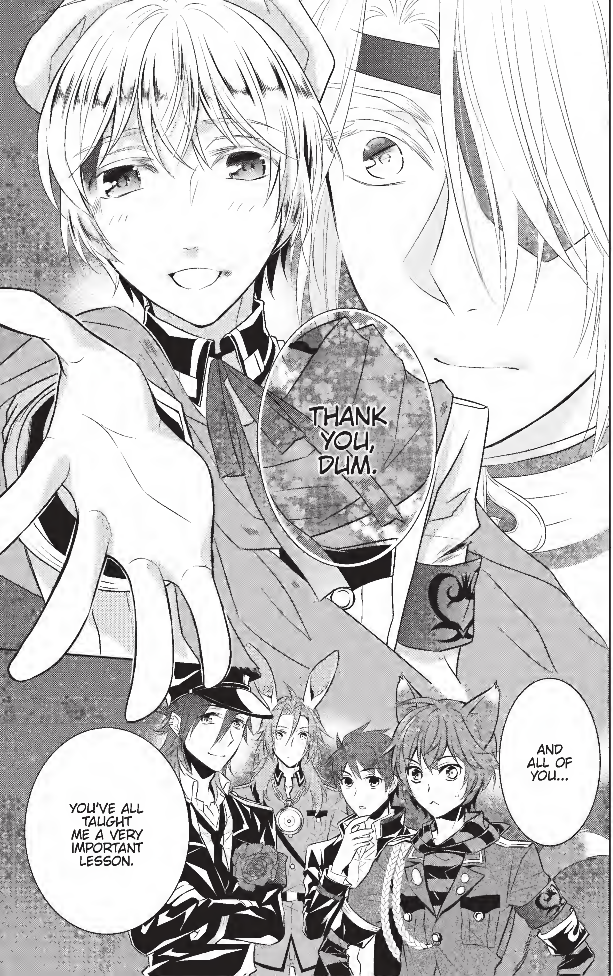

THIS IS MARCH HARE'S HANDWRITING ...?!
"HEY, DORMOUSE! HOPE YOU'RE TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF.
"OF COURSE, KNOWING YOU, EVEN IF YOU ARE, YOU'RE PROBABLY JUST SLEEPING ALL THE TIME.
"I KNOW THIS LETTER'S GOING TO COME AS A BIT OF A SHOCK.
"AFTER ALL, I'D BEEN SENTENCED TO DEATH FOR TREASON.
"BUT...

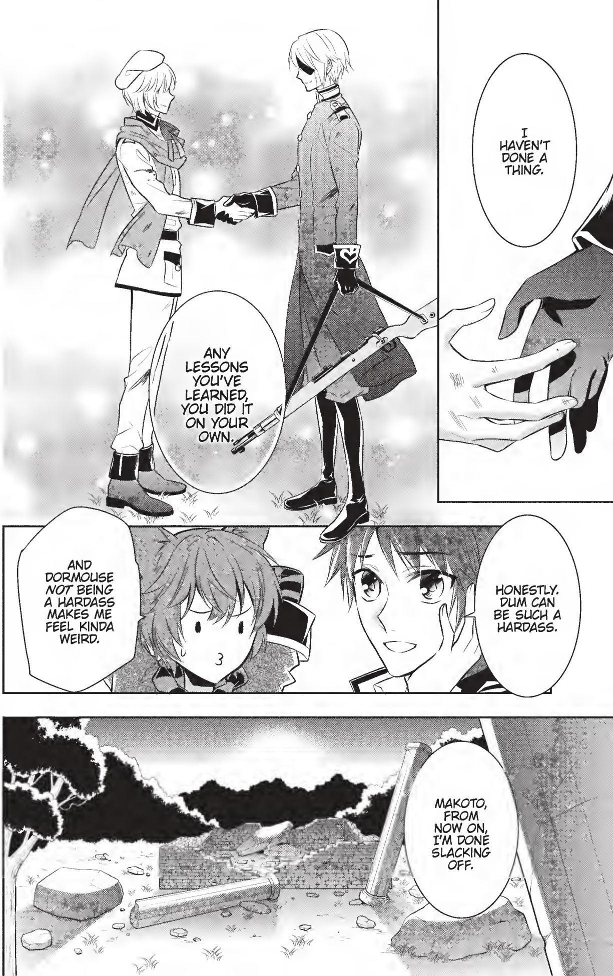

"I'M VERY MUCH ALIVE.
"TWEEDLEDUM SPARED MY LIFE."
WHAT ...?!
BY ORDER OF THE KING, I EXECUTED HER.
AT LEAST, I WAS SUPPOSED TO.
BUT I COULDN'T PULL THE TRIGGER.
I KNEW BY THEN THAT THE KING'S ACTIONS WERE BECOMING **ERRATIC.**
HOWEVER, THIS DID NOT CHANGE THE FACT THAT I DISOBEYED HIS ORDERS.
THIS LED TO A CONFRONTATION WITH MY BROTHER, WHO HAD THE KING'S EAR. I FLED IN DISGRACE, AND BECAME THE LEADER OF THE REBEL ARMY.

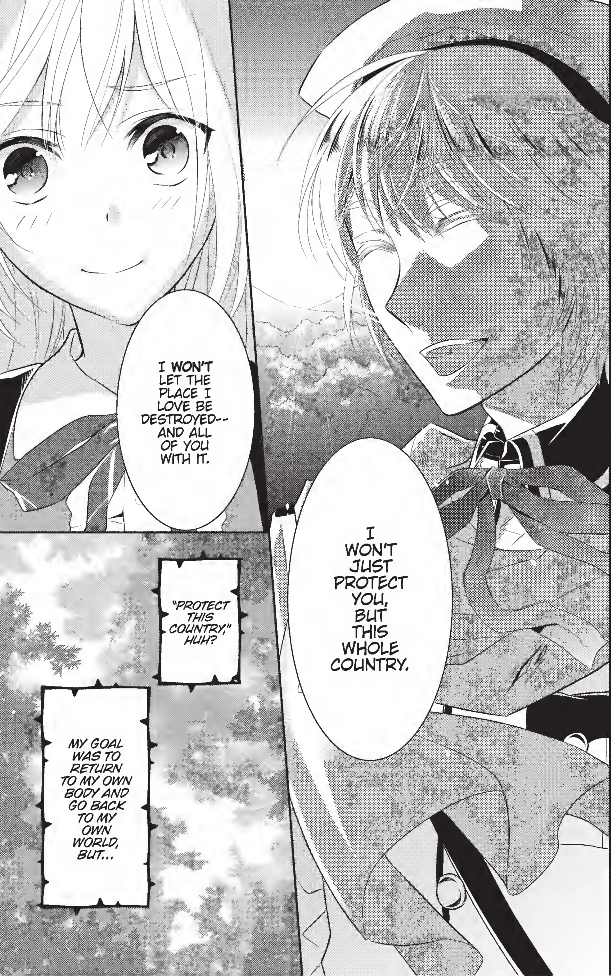

I'M SORRY I DIDN'T GIVE YOU THE LETTER RIGHT AWAY.
I WASN'T CERTAIN WHETHER YOU WERE WORTHY OF KNOWING THE TRUTH.
HOWEVER...
AFTER SEEING YOU RISK YOUR LIFE TO PROTECT MAKOTO...
I'M CONVINCED THAT YOU'RE NOT JUST A SELFISH CREATURE.
MARCH HARE IS LAYING LOW IN ONE OF THE REBEL ARMY BASES.
EVENTUALLY, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO REUNITE WITH HER.
I PROMISE.

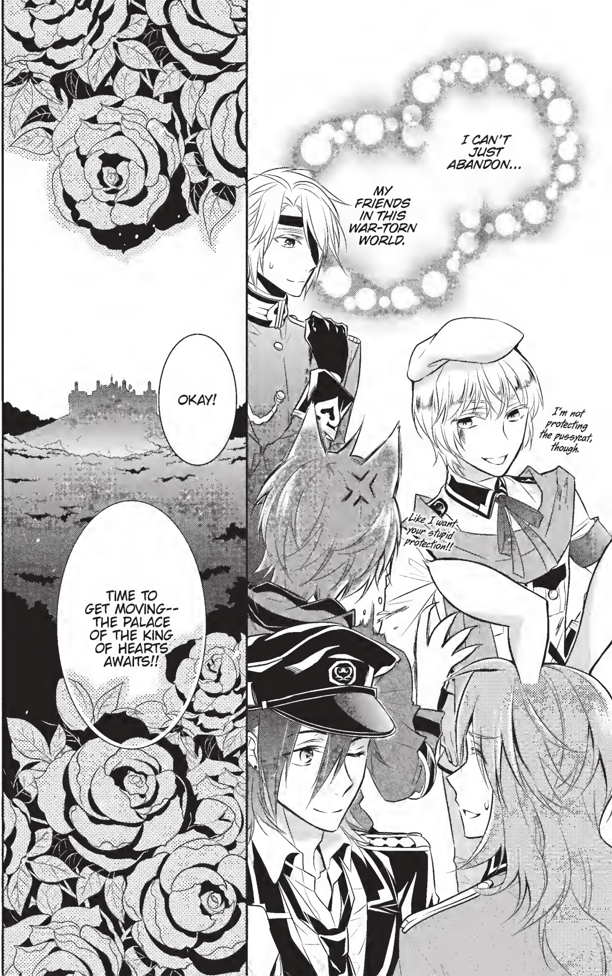

WHY... THAT'S...!
SO INSTEAD OF HER MURDERER, YOU'RE MARCH HARE'S *SAVIOR.*
TO THINK OF ALL THE TIMES I CURSED YOU...
AND NOW YOU'RE HURT ON *MY* ACCOUNT.
I...
I'M SUCH A FOOL.


DUDE, YOU'RE OVER-THINKING THIS.
PAT
JUST THANK HIM.
TH--


THANK YOU, DUM.
AND ALL OF YOU...
YOU'VE ALL TAUGHT ME A VERY IMPORTANT LESSON.


I HAVEN'T DONE A THING.
ANY LESSONS YOU'VE LEARNED, YOU DID IT ON YOUR OWN.
HONESTLY. DUM CAN BE SUCH A HARDASS.
AND DORMOUSE *NOT* BEING A HARDASS MAKES ME FEEL KINDA WEIRD.
MAKOTO, FROM NOW ON, I'M DONE SLACKING OFF.


I WON'T LET THE PLACE I LOVE BE DESTROYED--AND ALL OF YOU WITH IT.
I WON'T JUST PROTECT YOU, BUT THIS WHOLE COUNTRY.
"PROTECT THIS COUNTRY," HUH?
MY GOAL WAS TO RETURN TO MY OWN BODY AND GO BACK TO MY OWN WORLD, BUT...

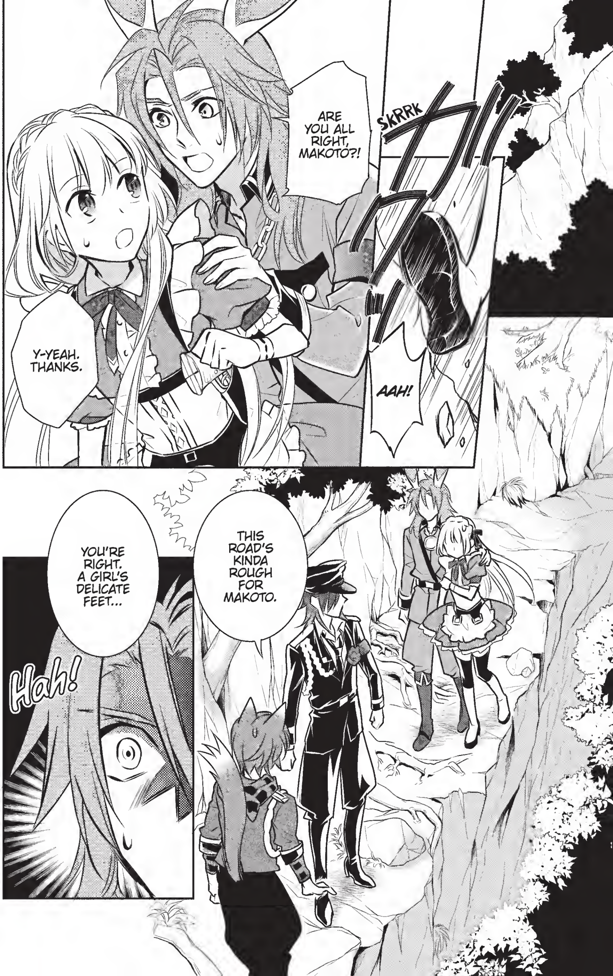

I CAN'T JUST ABANDON...
MY FRIENDS IN THIS WAR-TORN WORLD.
I'm not protecting the pussycat, though.
Like I want your stupid protection!!
OKAY!
TIME TO GET MOVING-- THE PALACE OF THE KING OF HEARTS AWAITS!!

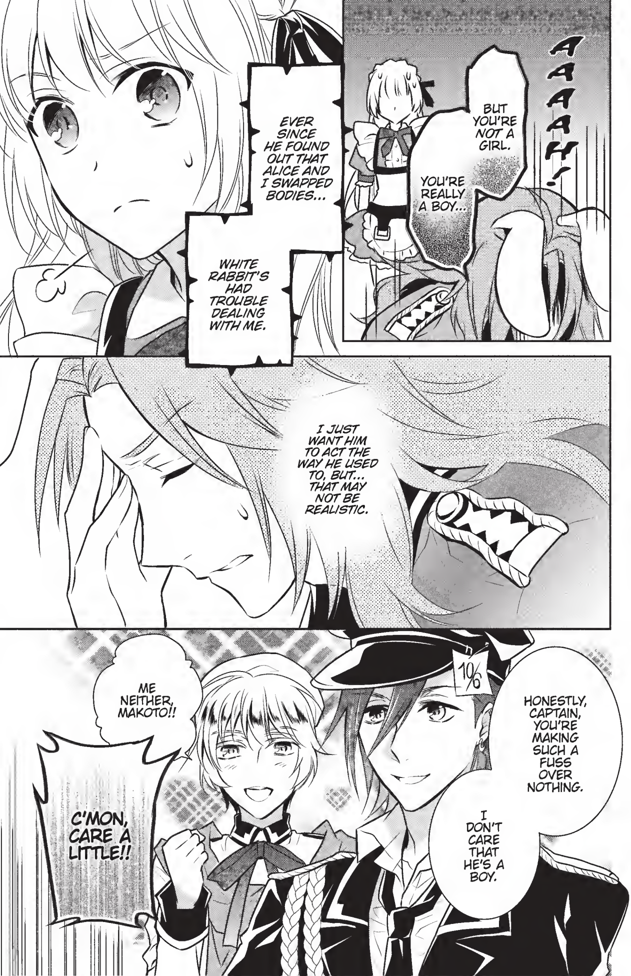
I AM ALICE

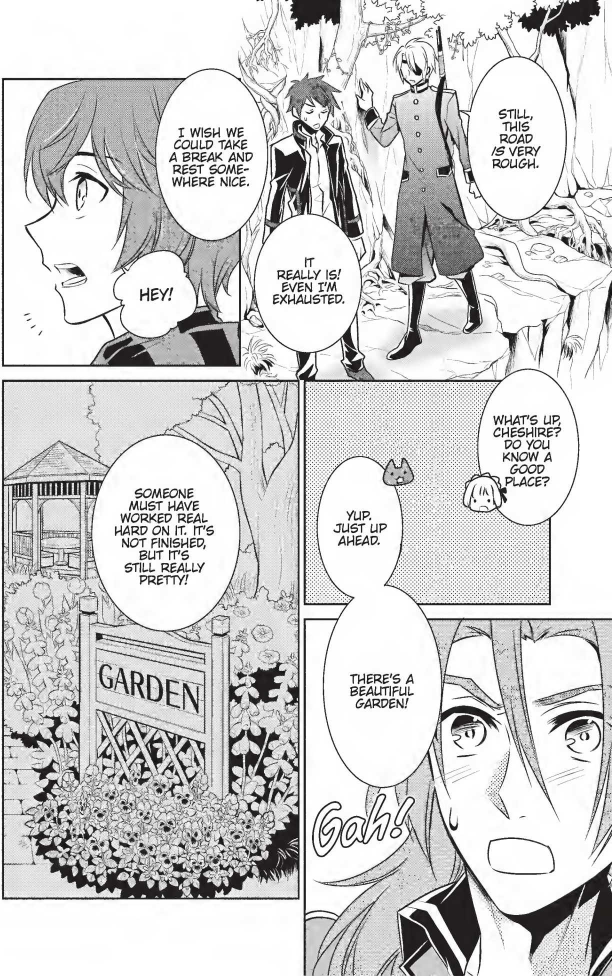
I AM ALICE

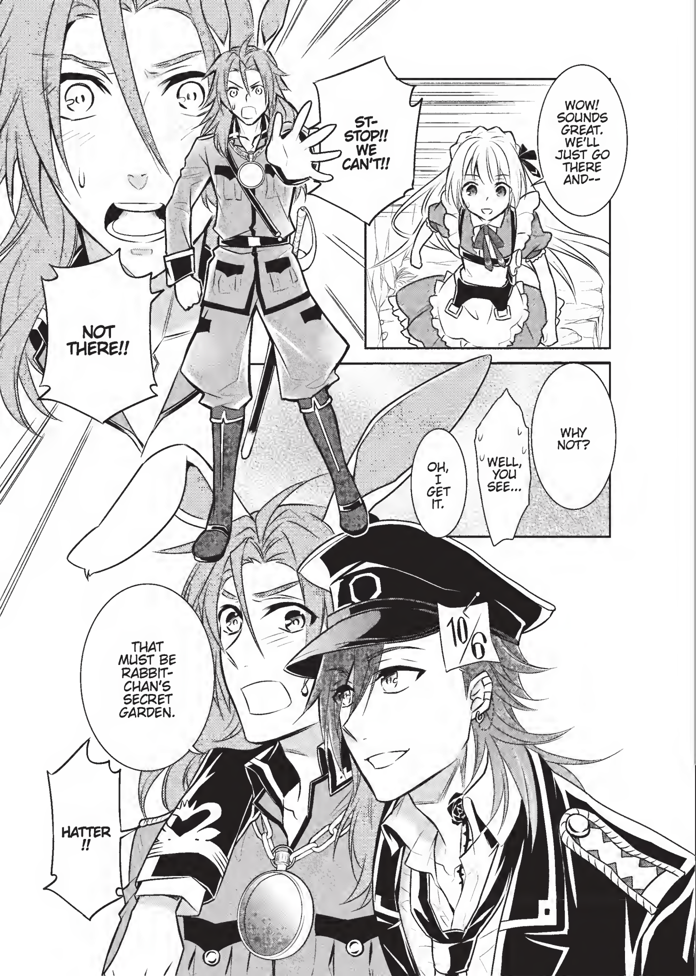
♥ CHAPTER 8 ♥

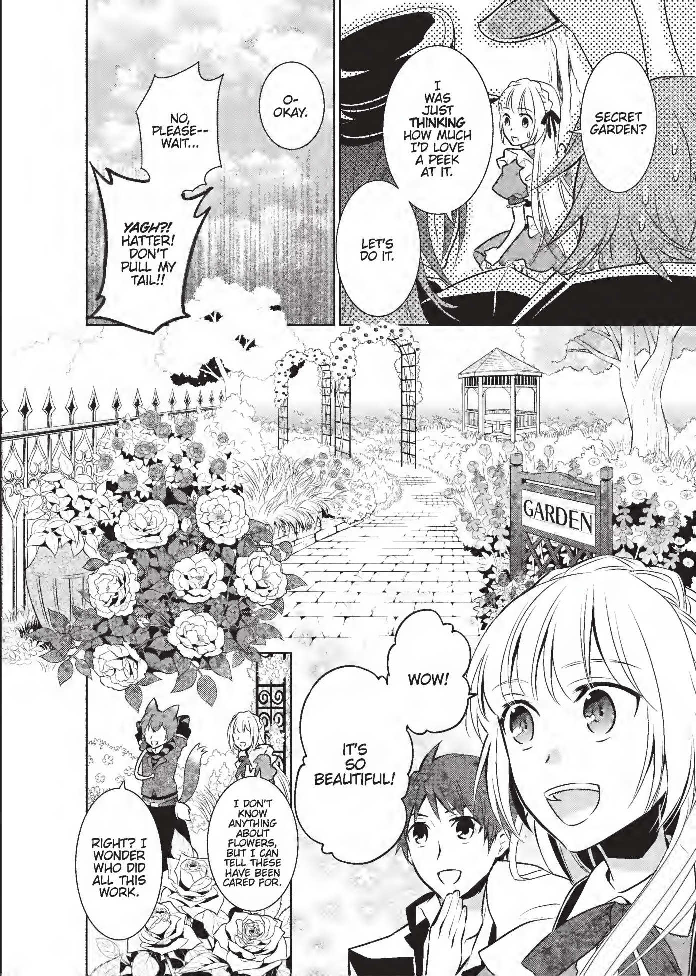
THE WHITE RABBIT'S SECRET

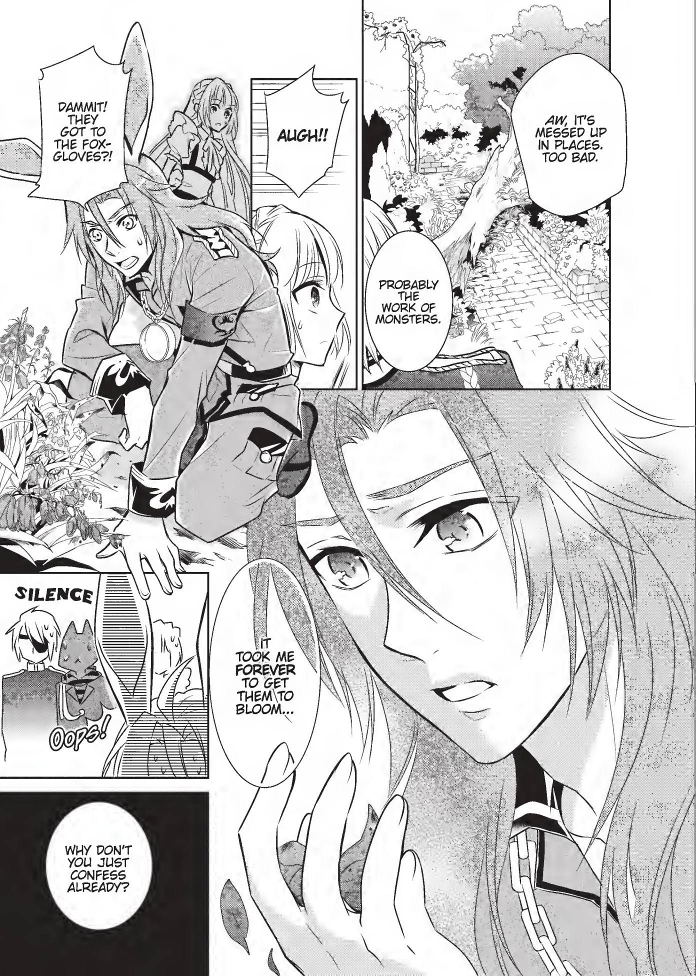

SKRRK
AAH!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MAKOTO?!
Y-YEAH. THANKS.
THIS ROAD'S KINDA ROUGH FOR MAKOTO.
YOU'RE RIGHT. A GIRL'S DELICATE FEET...
Hah!

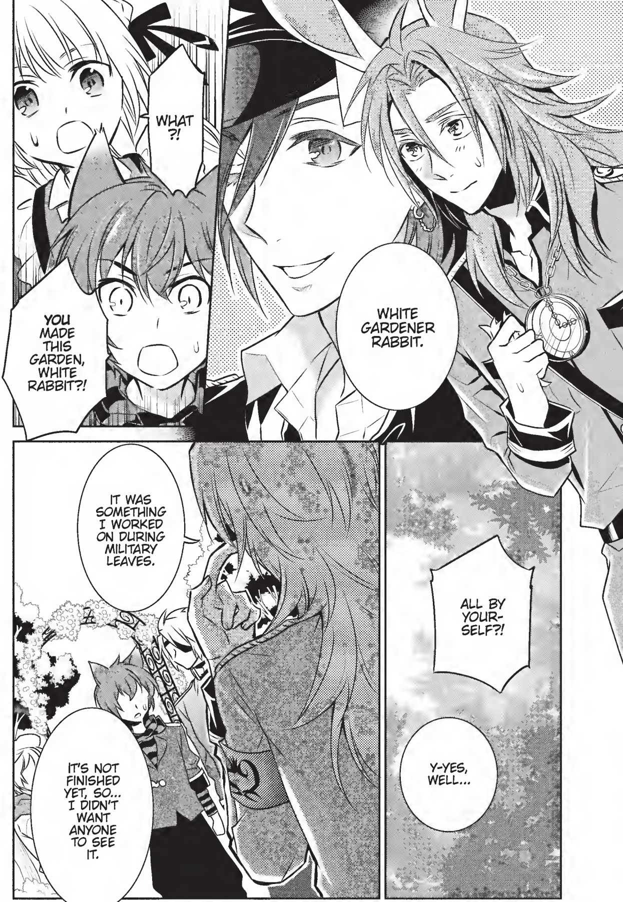

AAAAAH!
BUT YOU'RE NOT A GIRL.
YOU'RE REALLY A BOY...
EVER SINCE HE FOUND OUT THAT ALICE AND I SWAPPED BODIES...
WHITE RABBIT'S HAD TROUBLE DEALING WITH ME.
I JUST WANT HIM TO ACT THE WAY HE USED TO, BUT... THAT MAY NOT BE REALISTIC.
10/6
HONESTLY, CAPTAIN, YOU'RE MAKING SUCH A FUSS OVER NOTHING.
I DON'T CARE THAT HE'S A BOY.
ME NEITHER, MAKOTO!!
C'MON, CARE A LITTLE!!

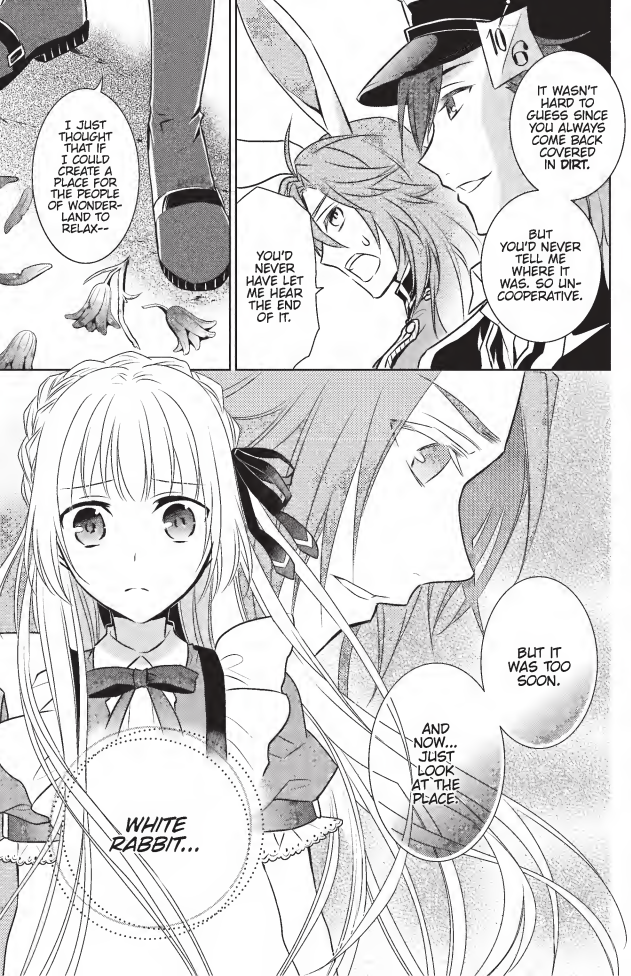

STILL, THIS ROAD IS VERY ROUGH.
IT REALLY IS! EVEN I'M EXHAUSTED.
I WISH WE COULD TAKE A BREAK AND REST SOMEWHERE NICE.
HEY!
WHAT'S UP, CHESHIRE? DO YOU KNOW A GOOD PLACE?
YUP. JUST UP AHEAD.
THERE'S A BEAUTIFUL GARDEN!
Gah!
SOMEONE MUST HAVE WORKED REAL HARD ON IT. IT'S NOT FINISHED, BUT IT'S STILL REALLY PRETTY!
GARDEN

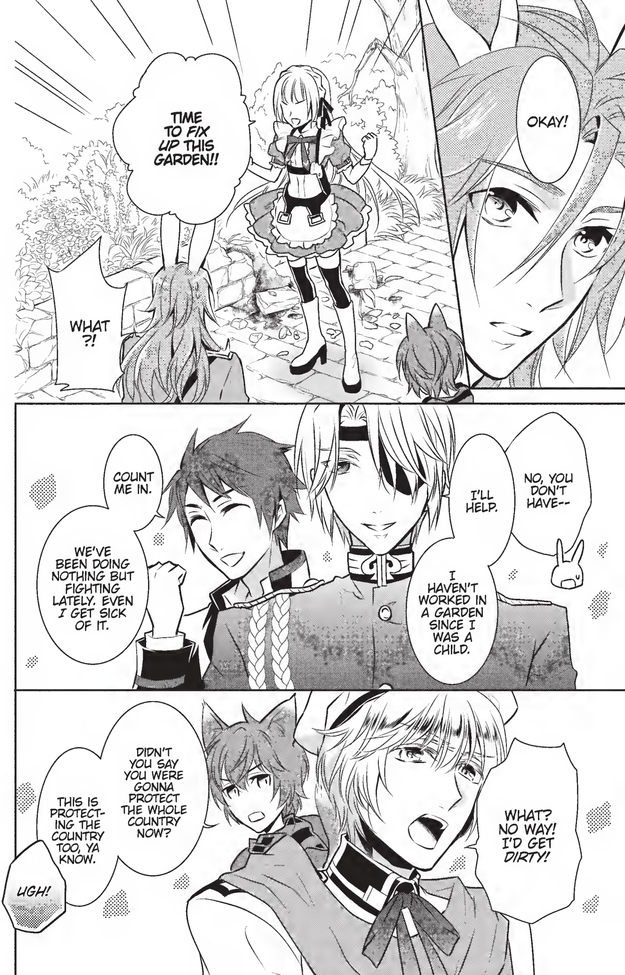

WOW! SOUNDS GREAT. WE'LL JUST GO THERE AND--
ST- STOP!! WE CAN'T!!
NOT THERE!!
WHY NOT?
WELL, YOU SEE...
OH, I GET IT.
10/6
THAT MUST BE RABBIT-CHAN'S SECRET GARDEN.
HATTER !!

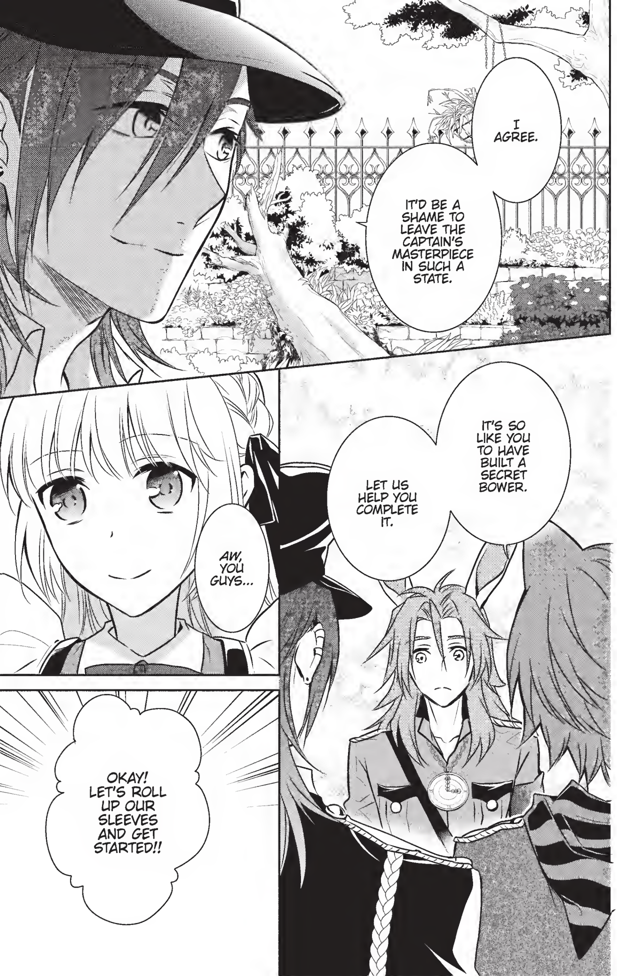

SECRET GARDEN?
I WAS JUST **THINKING** HOW MUCH I'D LOVE A PEEK AT IT.
LET'S DO IT.
O-OKAY.
NO, PLEASE--WAIT...
YAGH?! HATTER! DON'T PULL MY TAIL!!
GARDEN
WOW!
IT'S SO BEAUTIFUL!
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT FLOWERS, BUT I CAN TELL THESE HAVE BEEN CARED FOR.
RIGHT? I WONDER WHO DID ALL THIS WORK.

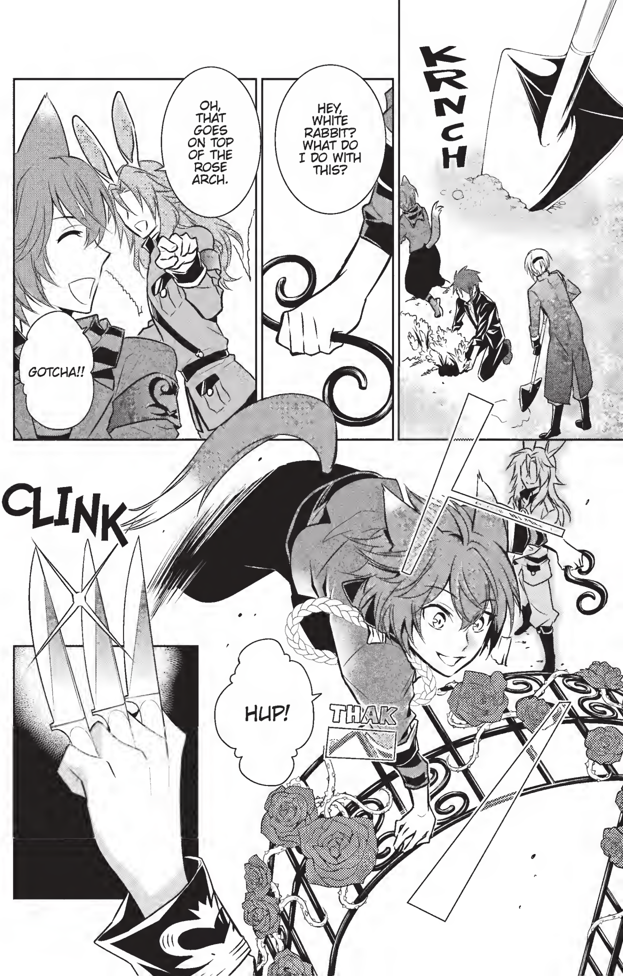

AW, IT'S MESSED UP IN PLACES. TOO BAD.
PROBABLY THE WORK OF MONSTERS.
AUGH!!
DAMMIT! THEY GOT TO THE FOX-GLOVES?!
SILENCE
Oops!
IT TOOK ME FOREVER TO GET THEM TO BLOOM...
WHY DON'T YOU JUST CONFESS ALREADY?

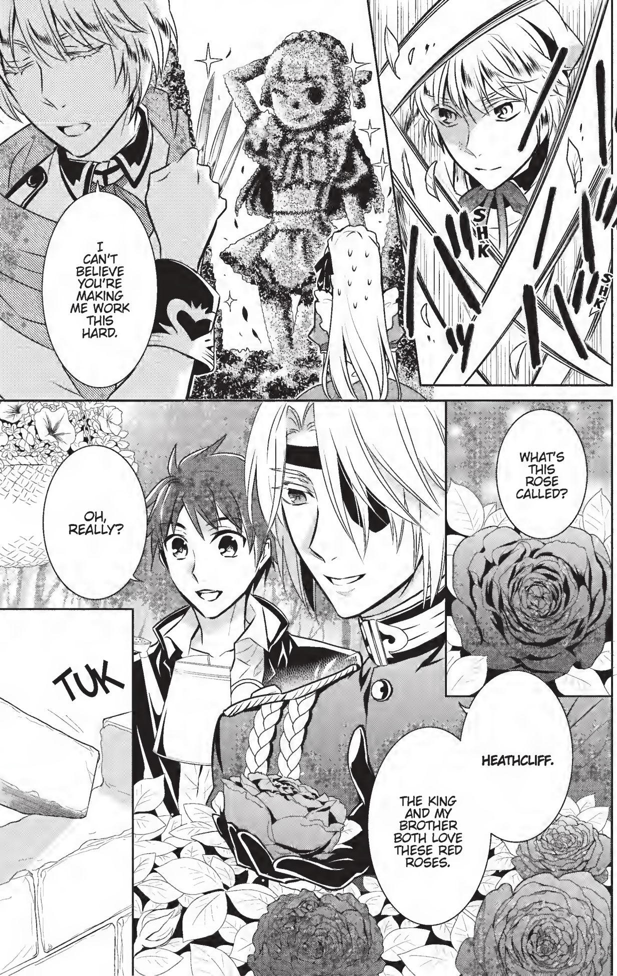

WHITE GARDENER RABBIT.
WHAT?!
YOU MADE THIS GARDEN, WHITE RABBIT?!
ALL BY YOURSELF?!
Y-YES, WELL...
IT WAS SOMETHING I WORKED ON DURING MILITARY LEAVES.
IT'S NOT FINISHED YET, SO... I DIDN'T WANT ANYONE TO SEE IT.

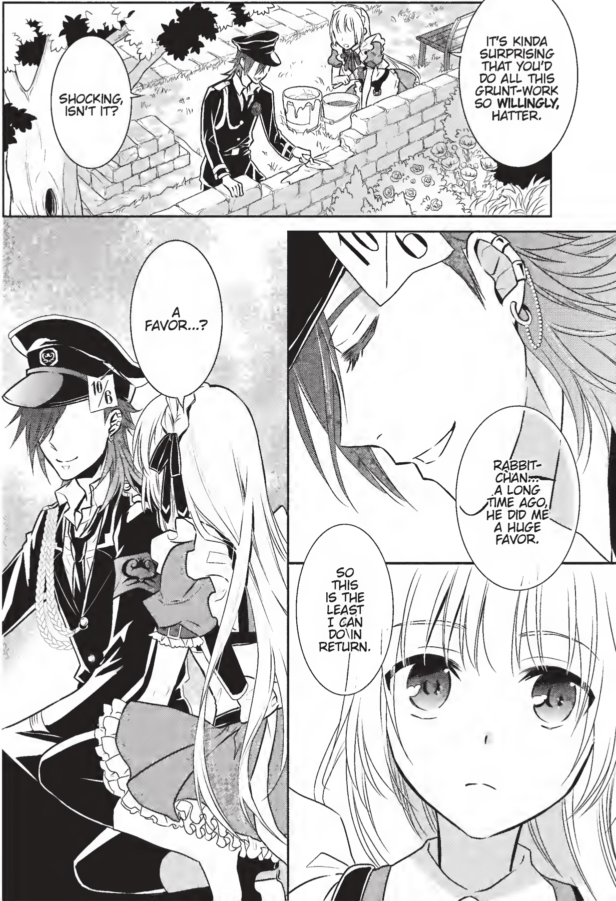

IT WASN'T HARD TO GUESS SINCE YOU ALWAYS COME BACK COVERED IN **DIRT**.
BUT YOU'D NEVER TELL ME WHERE IT WAS. SO UNCOOPERATIVE.
YOU'D NEVER HAVE LET ME HEAR THE END OF IT.
I JUST THOUGHT THAT IF I COULD CREATE A PLACE FOR THE PEOPLE OF WONDERLAND TO RELAX--
BUT IT WAS TOO SOON.
AND NOW... JUST LOOK AT THE PLACE.
WHITE RABBIT...

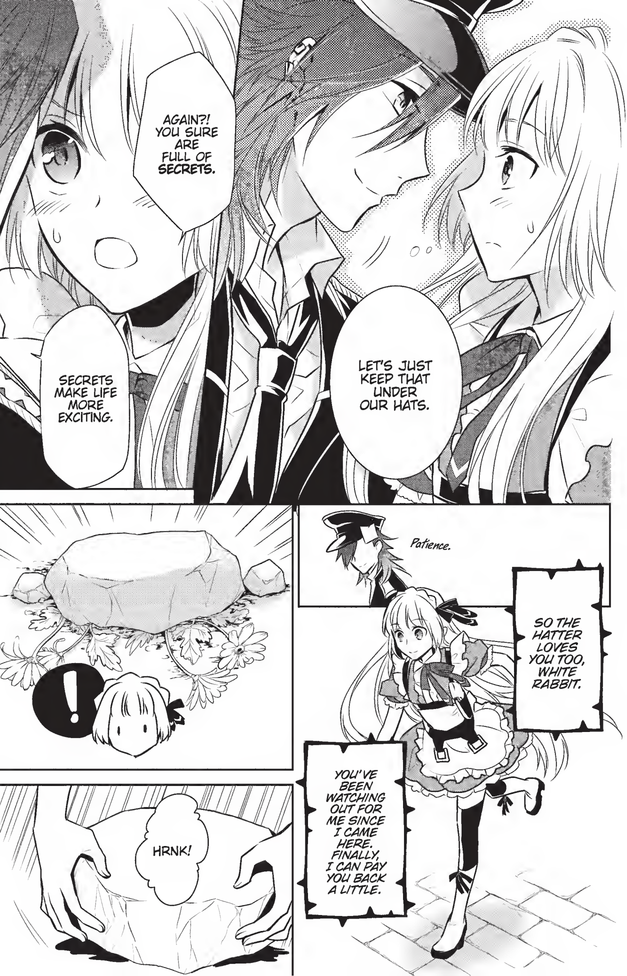

OKAY!
TIME TO *FIX UP* THIS GARDEN!!
WHAT?!
NO, YOU DON'T HAVE--
I'LL HELP.
I HAVEN'T WORKED IN A GARDEN SINCE I WAS A CHILD.
COUNT ME IN.
WE'VE BEEN DOING NOTHING BUT FIGHTING LATELY. EVEN *I* GET SICK OF IT.
WHAT? NO WAY! I'D GET *DIRTY!*
DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU WERE GONNA PROTECT THE WHOLE COUNTRY NOW?
THIS IS PROTECTING THE COUNTRY TOO, YA KNOW.
UGH!

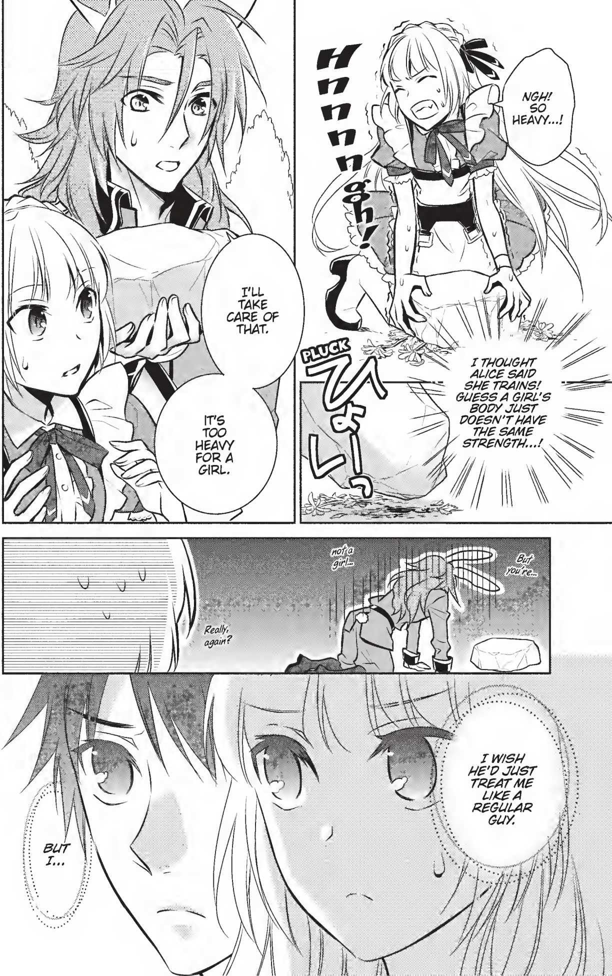

I AGREE.
IT'D BE A SHAME TO LEAVE THE CAPTAIN'S MASTERPIECE IN SUCH A STATE.
IT'S SO LIKE YOU TO HAVE BUILT A SECRET BOWER.
LET US HELP YOU COMPLETE IT.
AW, YOU GUYS...
OKAY! LET'S ROLL UP OUR SLEEVES AND GET STARTED!!

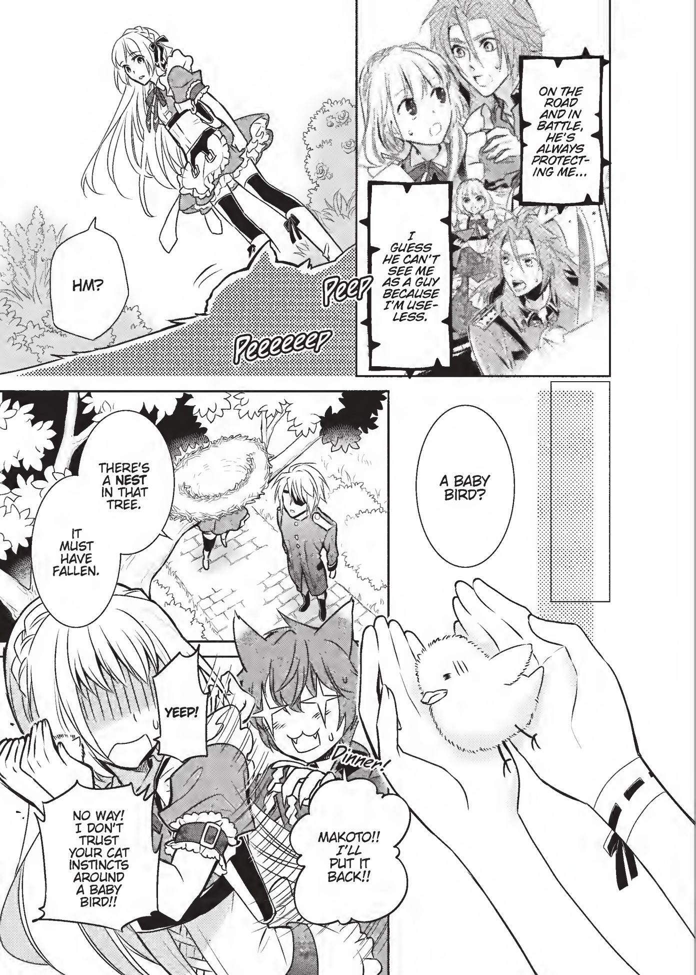

KRNCH
HEY, WHITE RABBIT? WHAT DO I DO WITH THIS?
OH, THAT GOES ON TOP OF THE ROSE ARCH.
GOTCHA!!
CLINK
THAK
HUP!

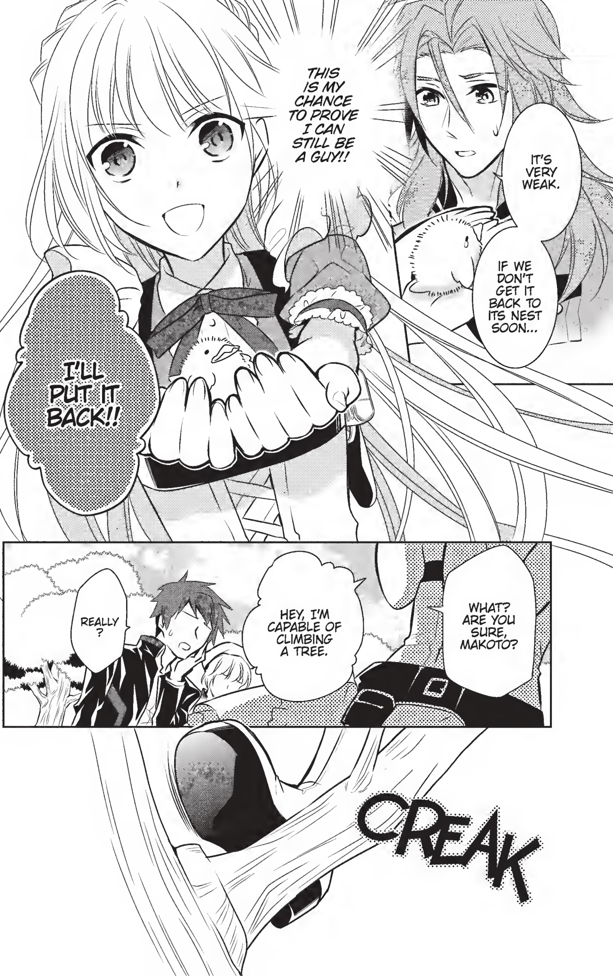

SHK
SHK
SHK
SHK
SHK
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE MAKING ME WORK THIS HARD.
WHAT'S THIS ROSE CALLED?
HEATHCLIFF.
THE KING AND MY BROTHER BOTH LOVE THESE RED ROSES.
OH, REALLY?
TUK

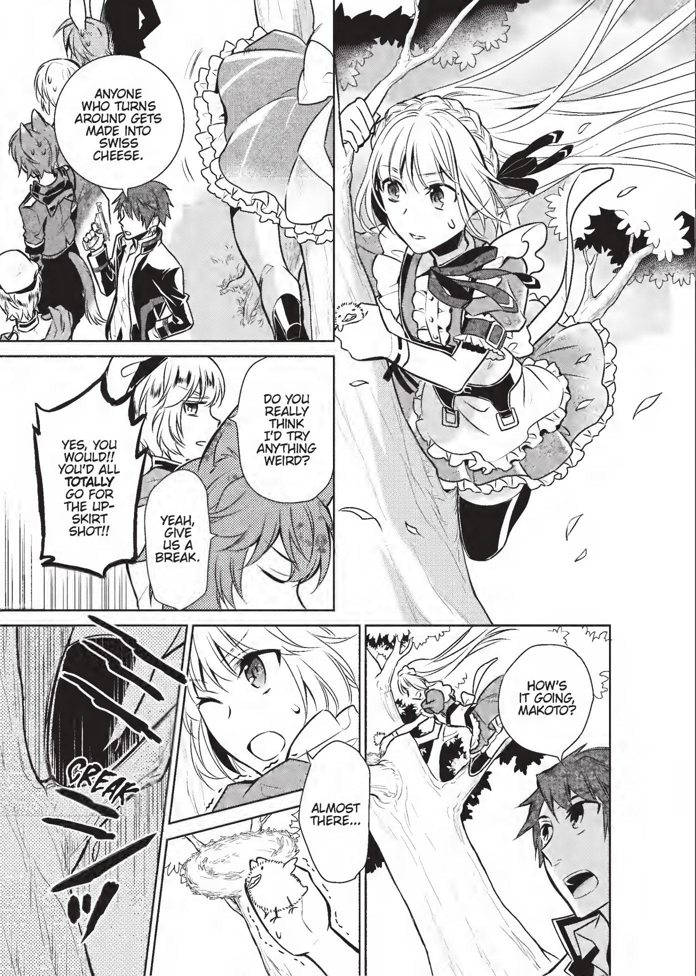

IT'S KINDA SURPRISING THAT YOU'D DO ALL THIS GRUNT-WORK SO **WILLINGLY,** HATTER.
SHOCKING, ISN'T IT?
RABBIT-CHAN... A LONG TIME AGO, HE DID ME A HUGE FAVOR.
A FAVOR...?
SO THIS IS THE LEAST I CAN DO IN RETURN.
10/6

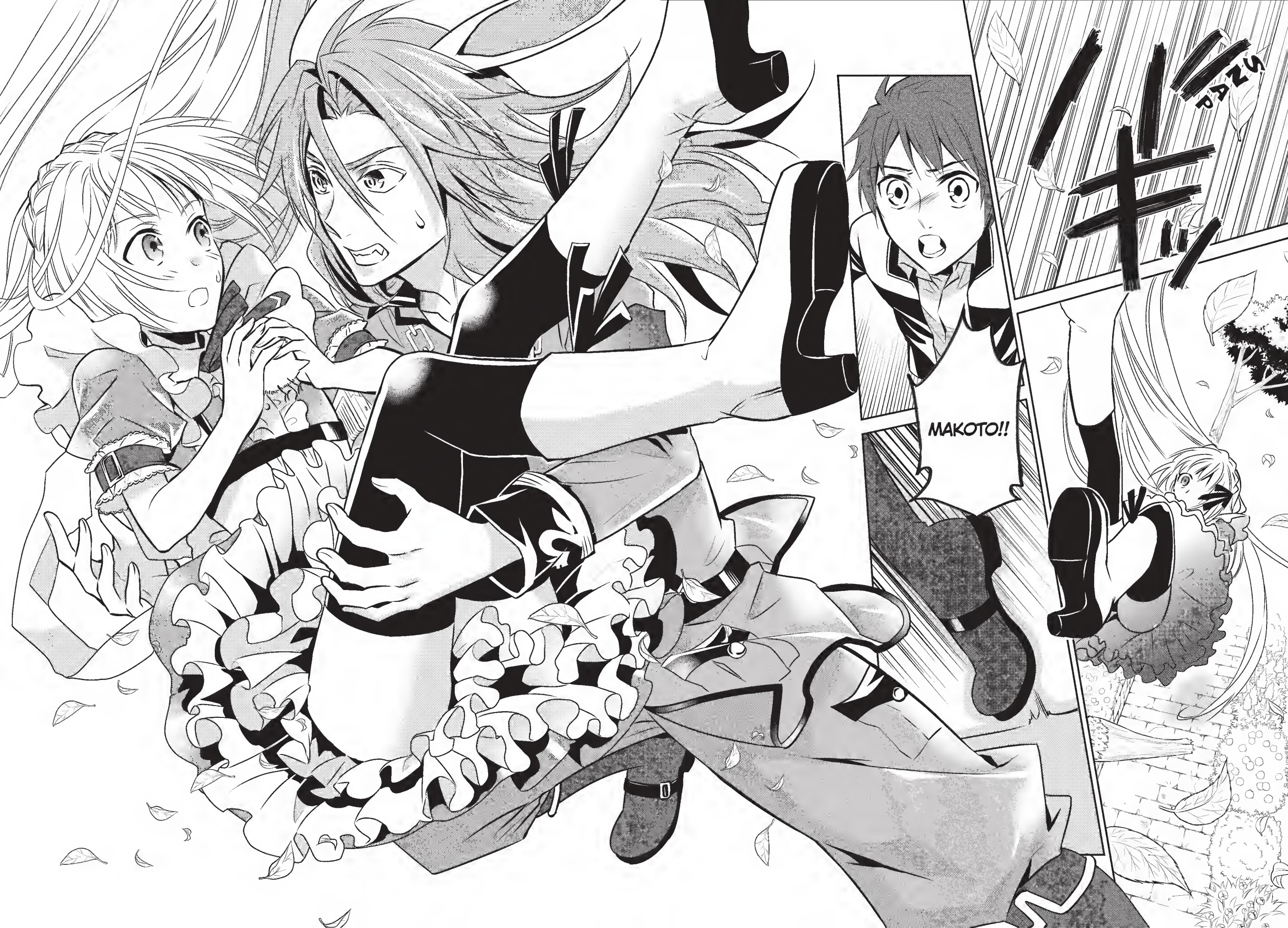

LET'S JUST KEEP THAT UNDER OUR HATS.
AGAIN?! YOU SURE ARE FULL OF SECRETS.
SECRETS MAKE LIFE MORE EXCITING.
Patience.
SO THE HATTER LOVES YOU TOO, WHITE RABBIT.
YOU'VE BEEN WATCHING OUT FOR ME SINCE I CAME HERE. FINALLY, I CAN PAY YOU BACK A LITTLE.
!
HRNK!

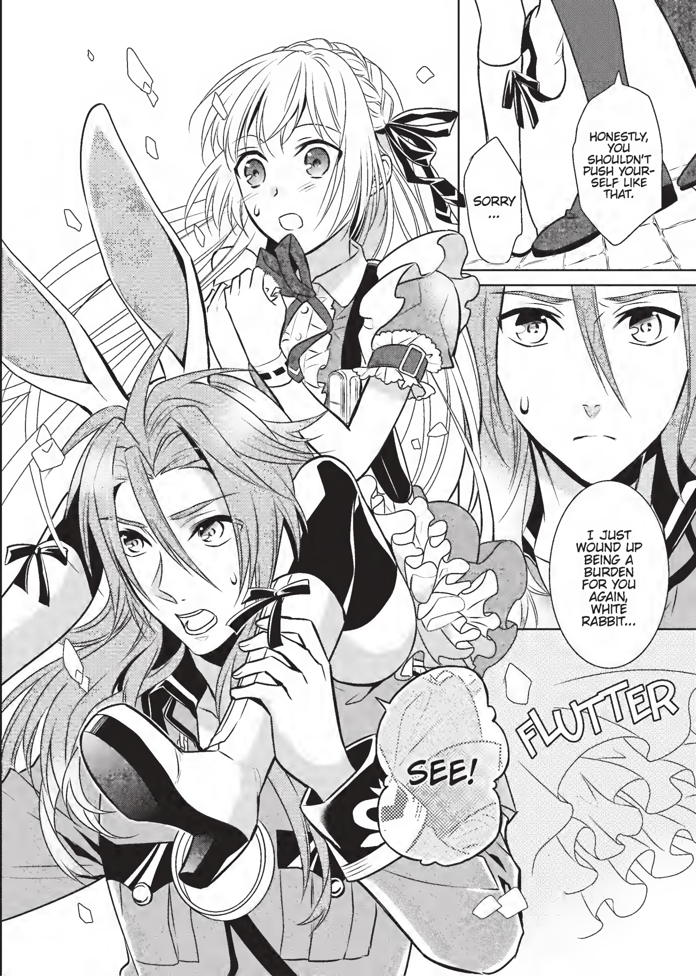

ググググ gh!
NGH! SO HEAVY...!
PLUCK
ひょーいっ
I THOUGHT ALICE SAID SHE TRAINS! GUESS A GIRL'S BODY JUST DOESN'T HAVE THE SAME STRENGTH...!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT.
IT'S TOO HEAVY FOR A GIRL.
But you're...
not a girl...
Really, again?
I WISH HE'D JUST TREAT ME LIKE A REGULAR GUY.
BUT I...

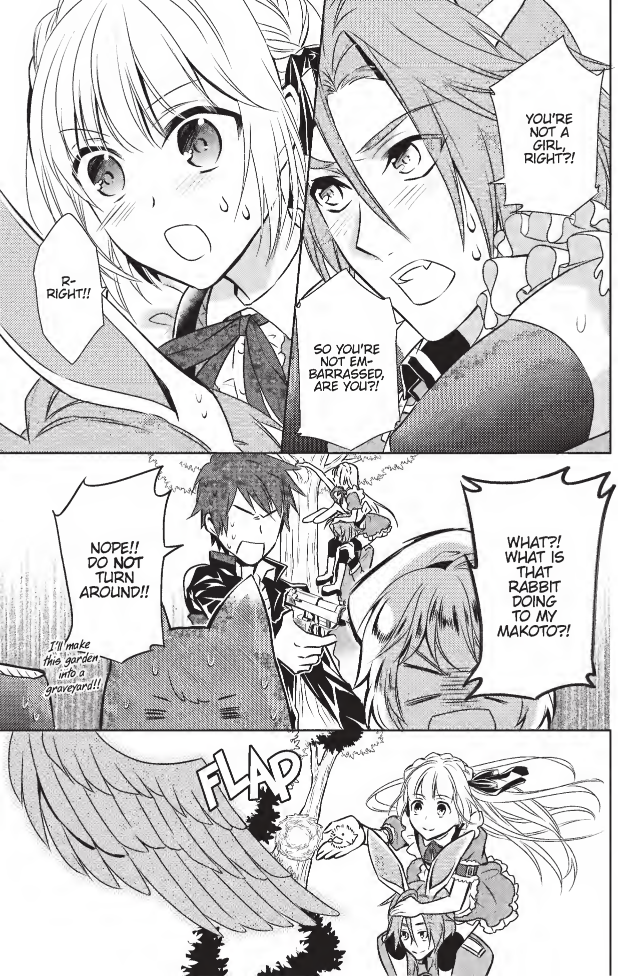

ON THE ROAD AND IN BATTLE, HE'S ALWAYS PROTECTING ME...
I GUESS HE CAN'T SEE ME AS A GUY BECAUSE I'M USELESS.
Peep
Peeeeeep
HM?
A BABY BIRD?
THERE'S A NEST IN THAT TREE.
IT MUST HAVE FALLEN.
Dinner!
MAKOTO!! I'LL PUT IT BACK!!
YEEP!
NO WAY! I DON'T TRUST YOUR CAT INSTINCTS AROUND A BABY BIRD!!

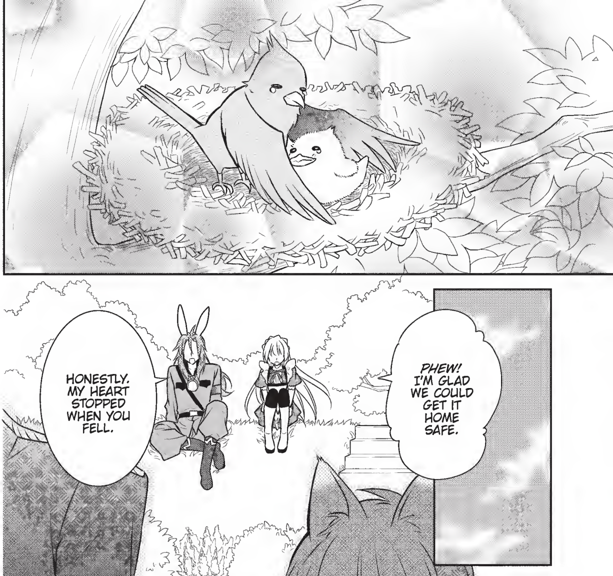

IT'S VERY WEAK.
IF WE DON'T GET IT BACK TO ITS NEST SOON...
THIS IS MY CHANCE TO PROVE I CAN STILL BE A GUY!!
I'LL PUT IT BACK!!
WHAT? ARE YOU SURE, MAKOTO?
HEY, I'M CAPABLE OF CLIMBING A TREE.
REALLY?
CREAK

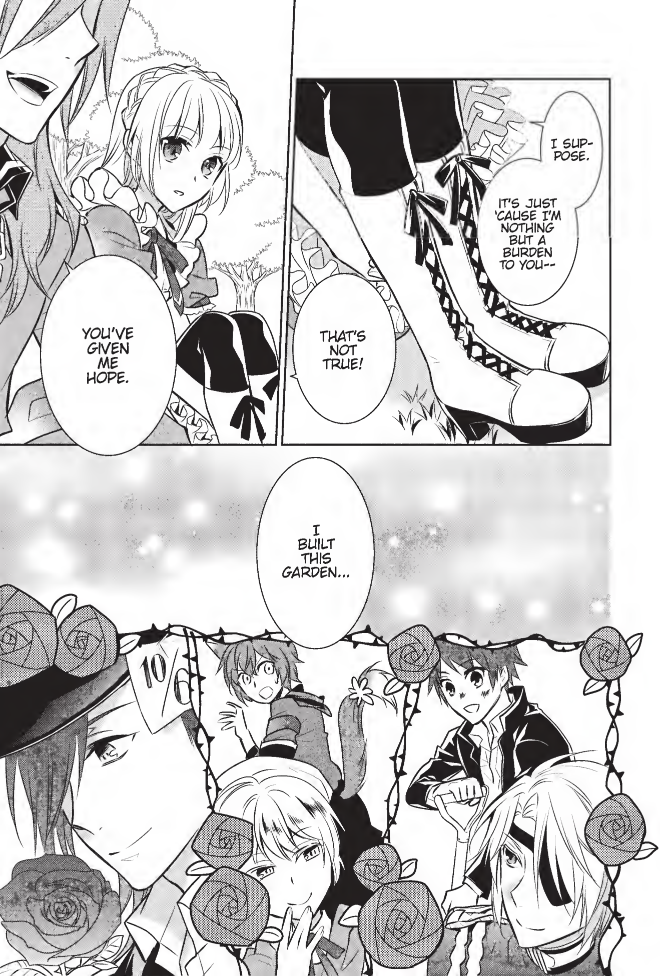

ANYONE WHO TURNS AROUND GETS MADE INTO SWISS CHEESE.
DO YOU REALLY THINK I'D TRY ANYTHING WEIRD?
YEAH, GIVE US A BREAK.
YES, YOU WOULD!! YOU'D ALL **TOTALLY** GO FOR THE UP-SKIRT SHOT!!
HOW'S IT GOING, MAKOTO?
ALMOST THERE...
CREAK

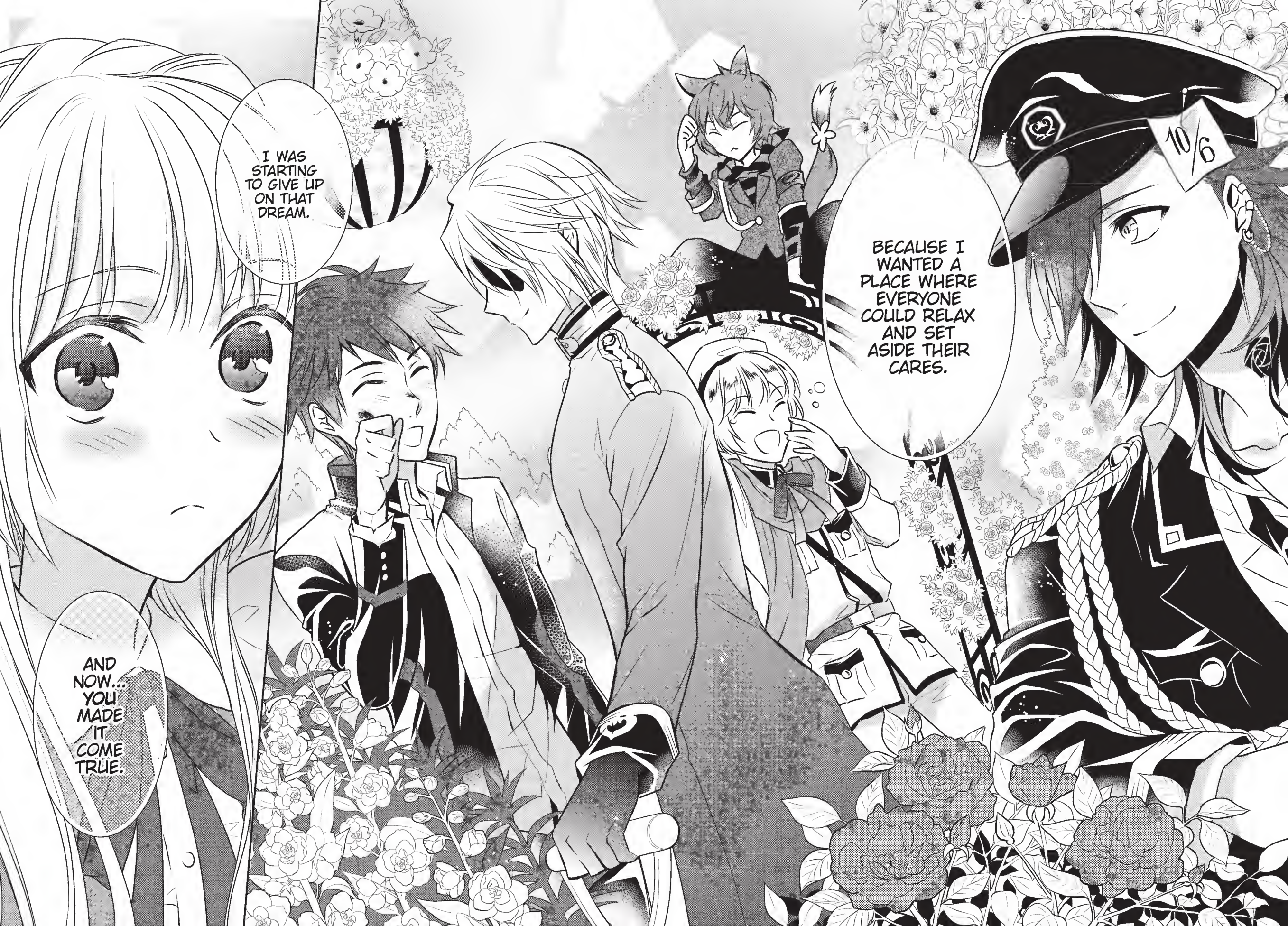

バギッ
SNAP
MAKOTO!!

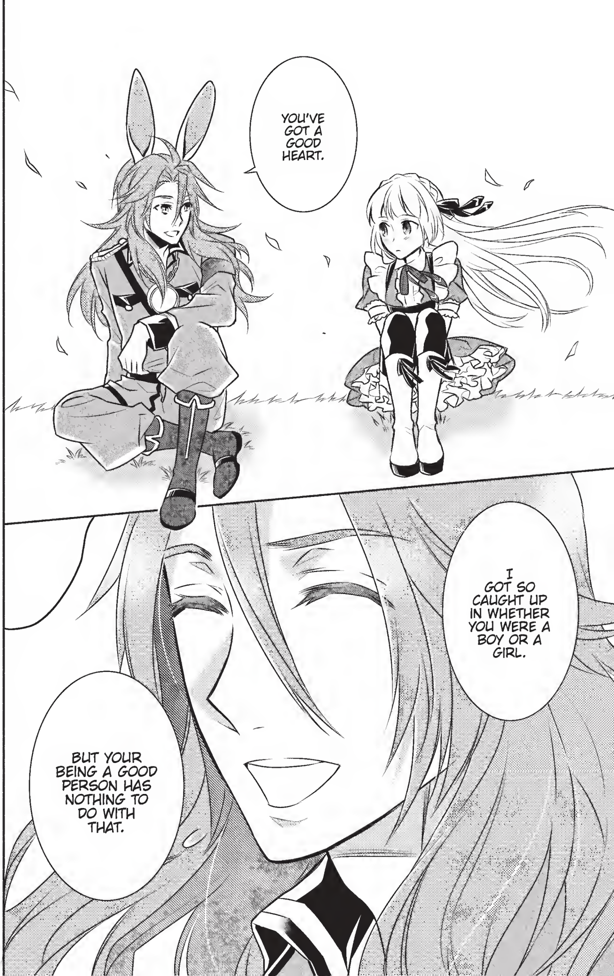

HONESTLY, YOU SHOULDN'T PUSH YOURSELF LIKE THAT.
SORRY...
I JUST WOUND UP BEING A BURDEN FOR YOU AGAIN, WHITE RABBIT...
FLUTTER
SEE!

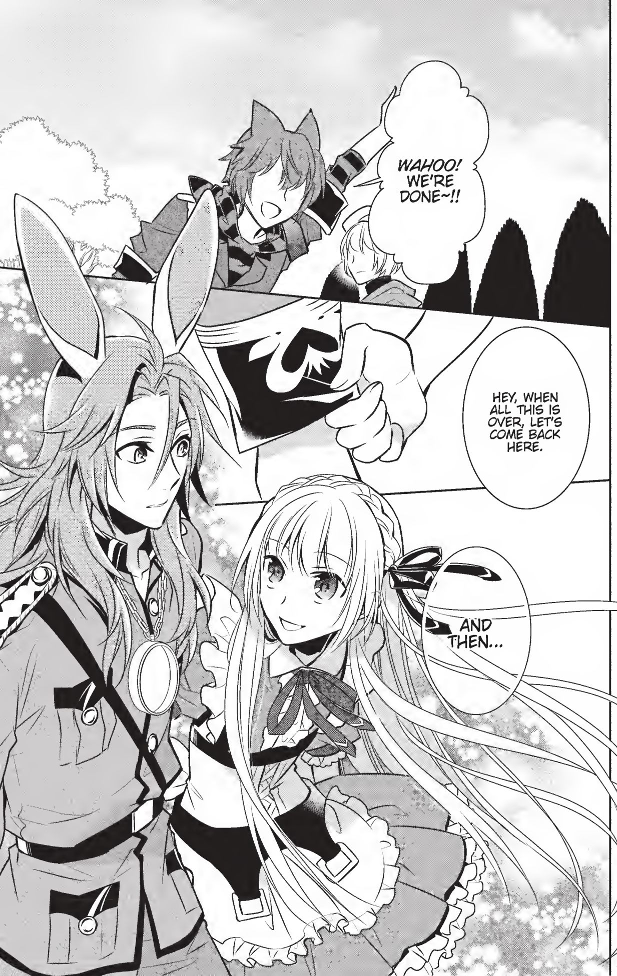

YOU'RE NOT A GIRL, RIGHT?!
SO YOU'RE NOT EMBARRASSED, ARE YOU?!
R-RIGHT!!
WHAT?! WHAT IS THAT RABBIT DOING TO MY MAKOTO?!
NOPE!! DO NOT TURN AROUND!!
I'll make this garden into a graveyard!!
FLAP

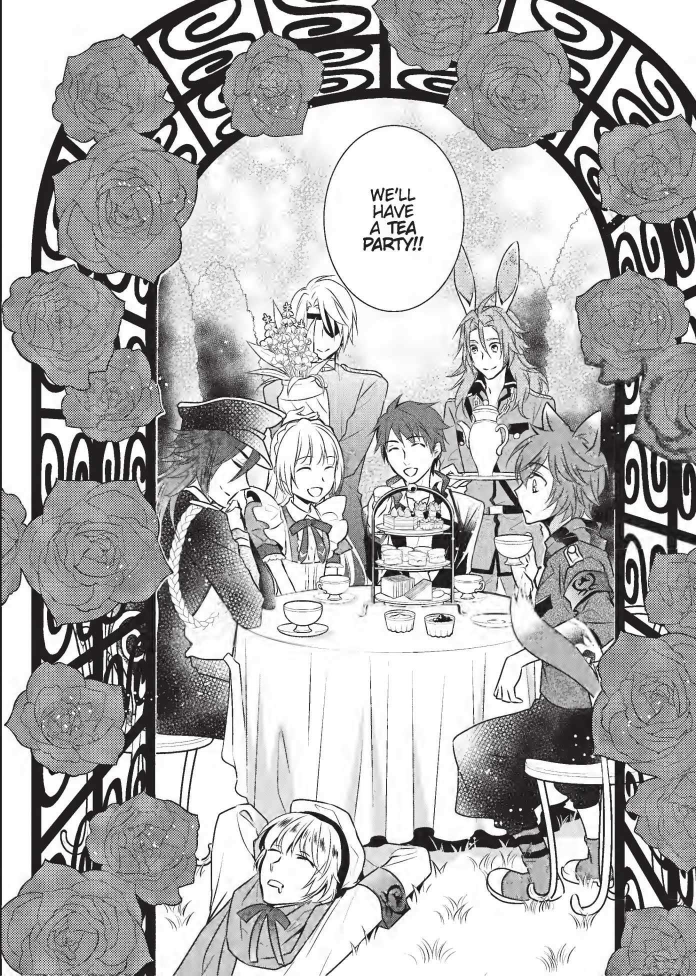

PHEW! I'M GLAD WE COULD GET IT HOME SAFE.
HONESTLY. MY HEART STOPPED WHEN YOU FELL.
YOU PUSH YOURSELF TOO HARD.
BONK

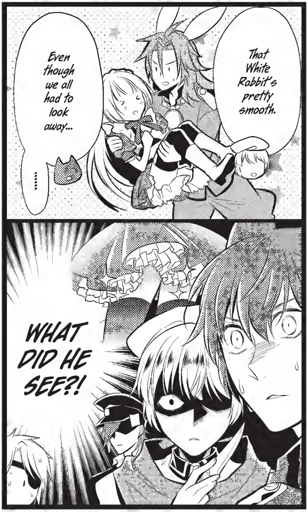

I SUP-POSE.
IT'S JUST 'CAUSE I'M NOTHING BUT A BURDEN TO YOU--
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
YOU'VE GIVEN ME HOPE.
I BUILT THIS GARDEN...
10/6


BECAUSE I WANTED A PLACE WHERE EVERYONE COULD RELAX AND SET ASIDE THEIR CARES.
10/6
I WAS STARTING TO GIVE UP ON THAT DREAM.
AND NOW... YOU MADE IT COME TRUE.


YOU'VE GOT A GOOD HEART.
I GOT SO CAUGHT UP IN WHETHER YOU WERE A BOY OR A GIRL.
BUT YOUR BEING A GOOD PERSON HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT.


WAHOO! WE'RE DONE~!!
HEY, WHEN ALL THIS IS OVER, LET'S COME BACK HERE.
AND THEN...

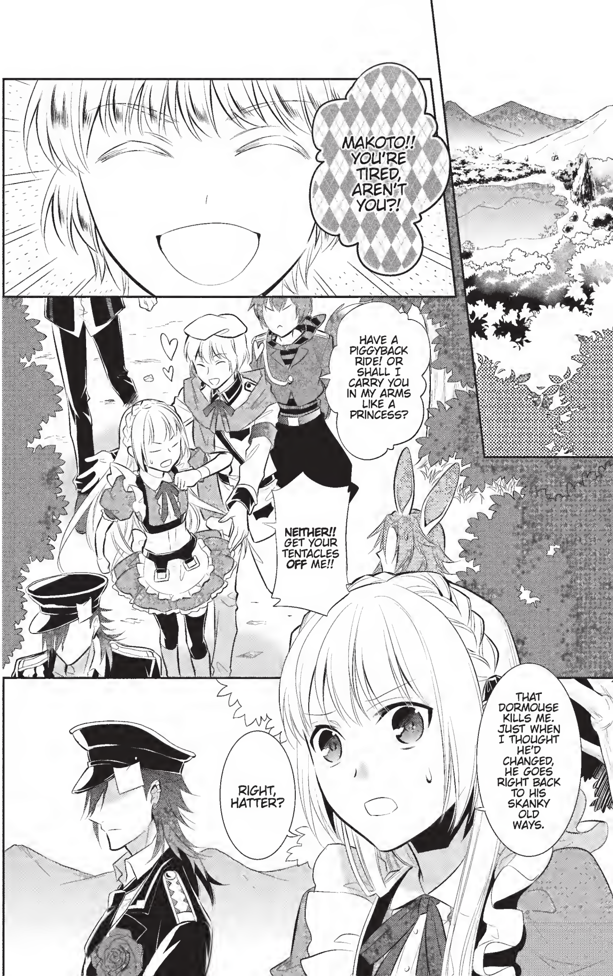

WE'LL HAVE A TEA PARTY!!

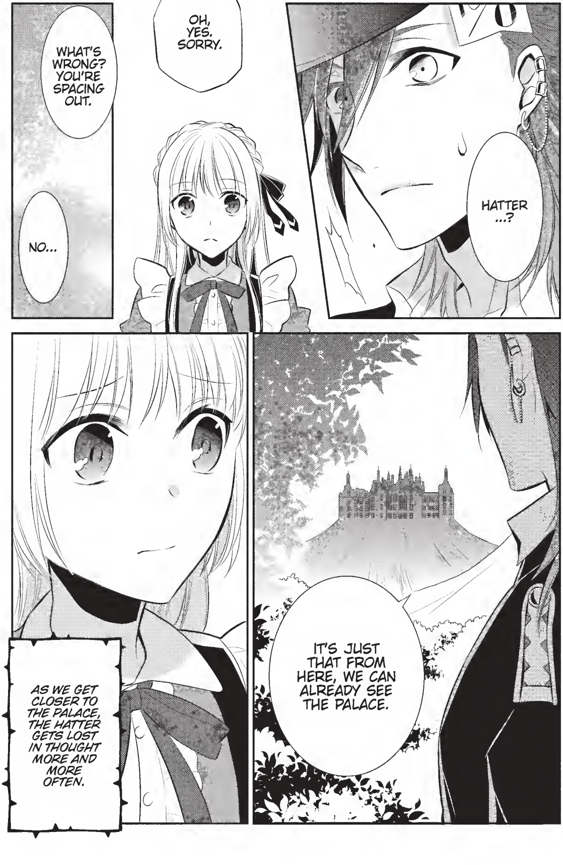

That White Rabbit's pretty smooth.
Even though we all had to look away...
......
WHAT DID HE SEE?!

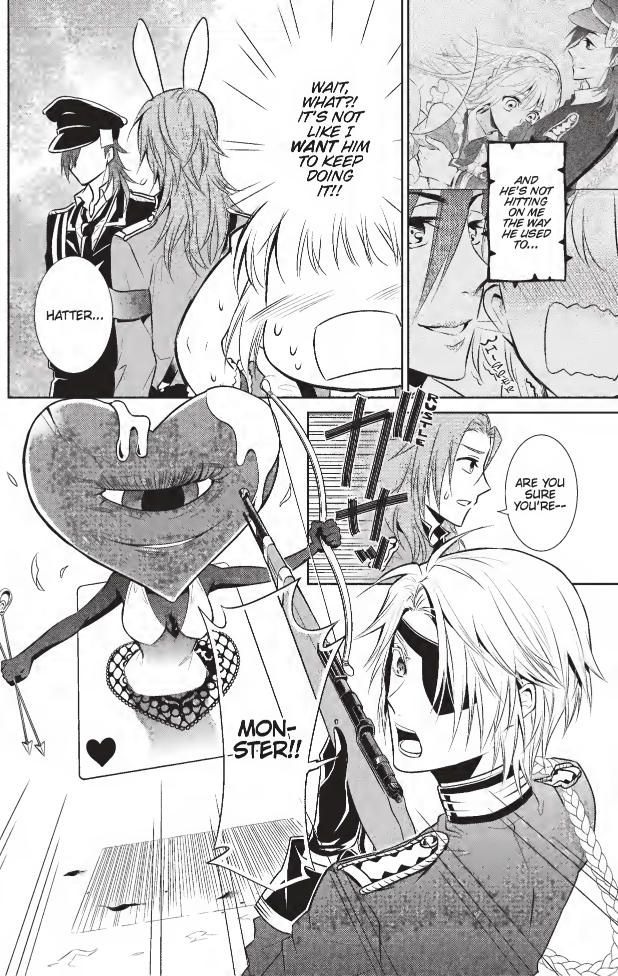
I AM ALICE

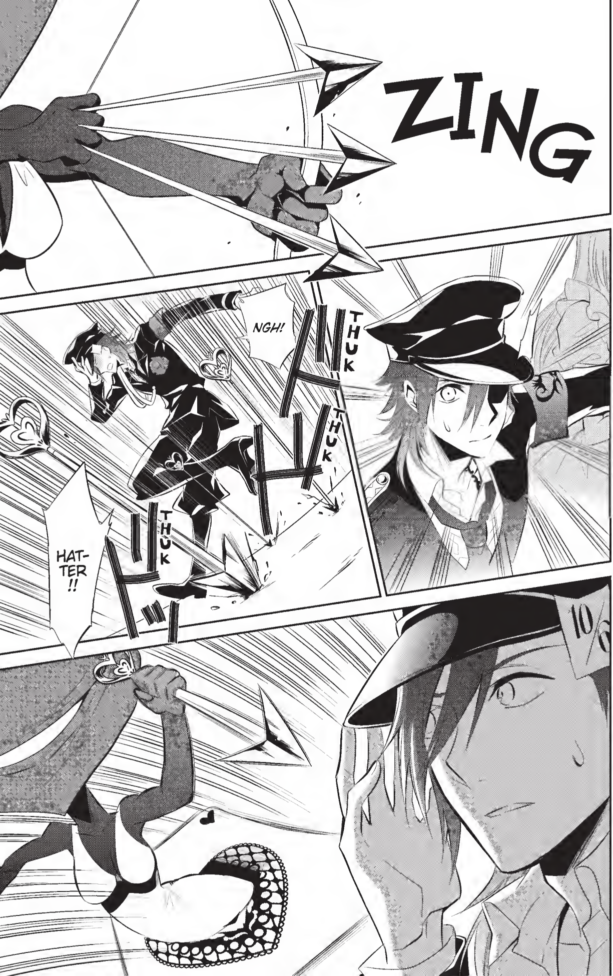
♡ CHAPTER 9 ♥

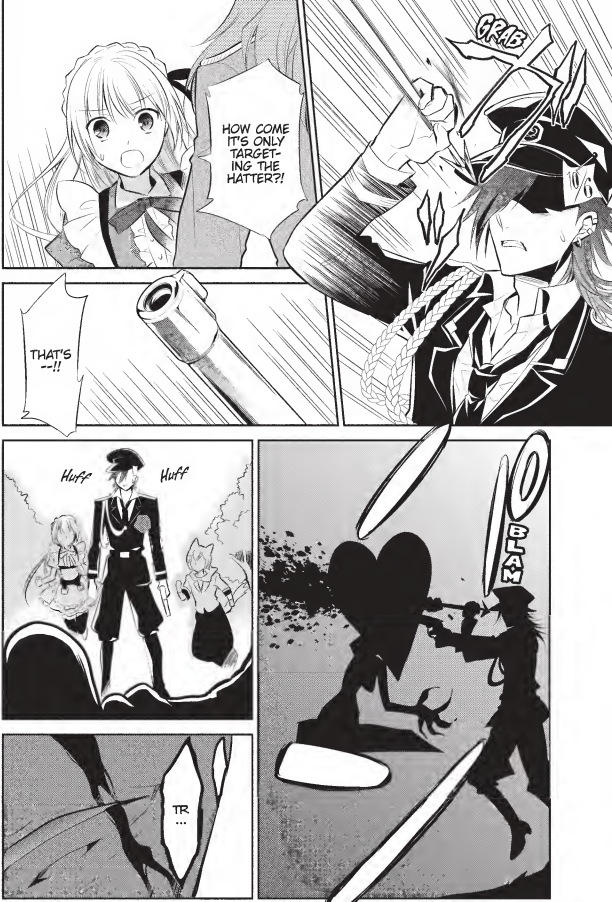
OF HATTERS AND PRINCES

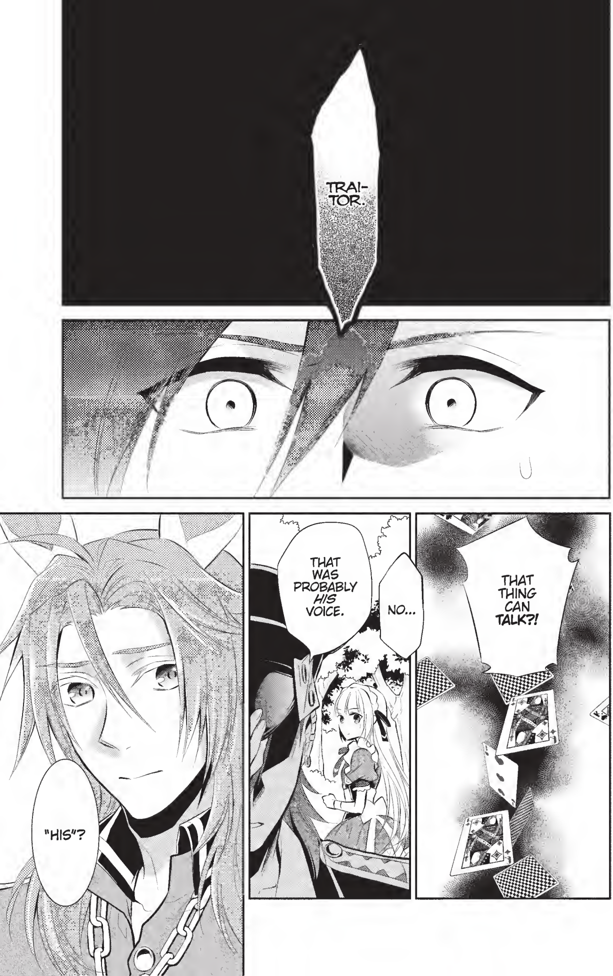

MAKOTO!! YOU'RE TIRED, AREN'T YOU?!
HAVE A PIGGYBACK RIDE! OR SHALL I CARRY YOU IN MY ARMS LIKE A PRINCESS?
NEITHER!! GET YOUR TENTACLES OFF ME!!
THAT DORMOUSE KILLS ME. JUST WHEN I THOUGHT HE'D CHANGED, HE GOES RIGHT BACK TO HIS SKANKY OLD WAYS.
RIGHT, HATTER?

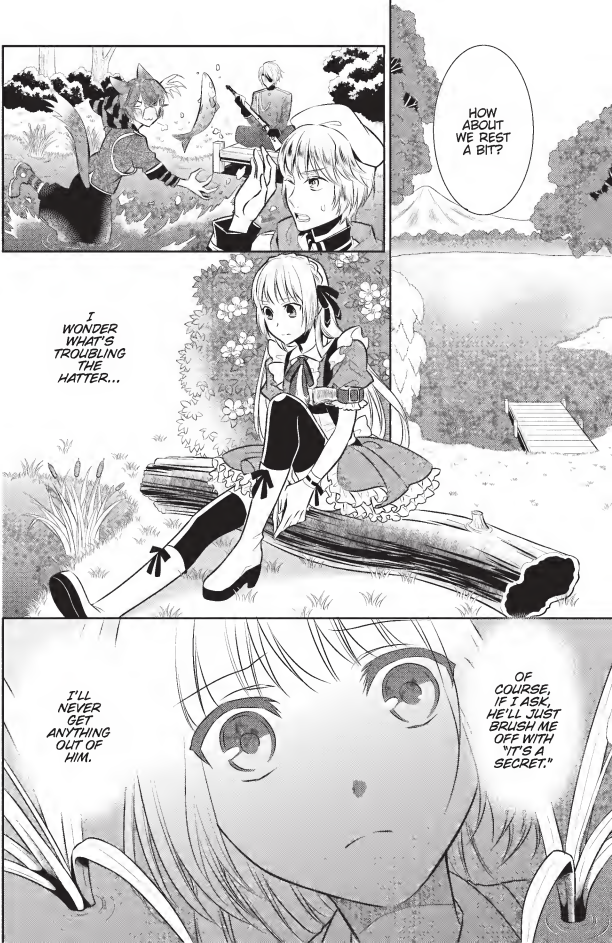

HATTER ...?
OH, YES. SORRY.
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'RE SPACING OUT.
NO...
IT'S JUST THAT FROM HERE, WE CAN ALREADY SEE THE PALACE.
AS WE GET CLOSER TO THE PALACE, THE HATTER GETS LOST IN THOUGHT MORE AND MORE OFTEN.

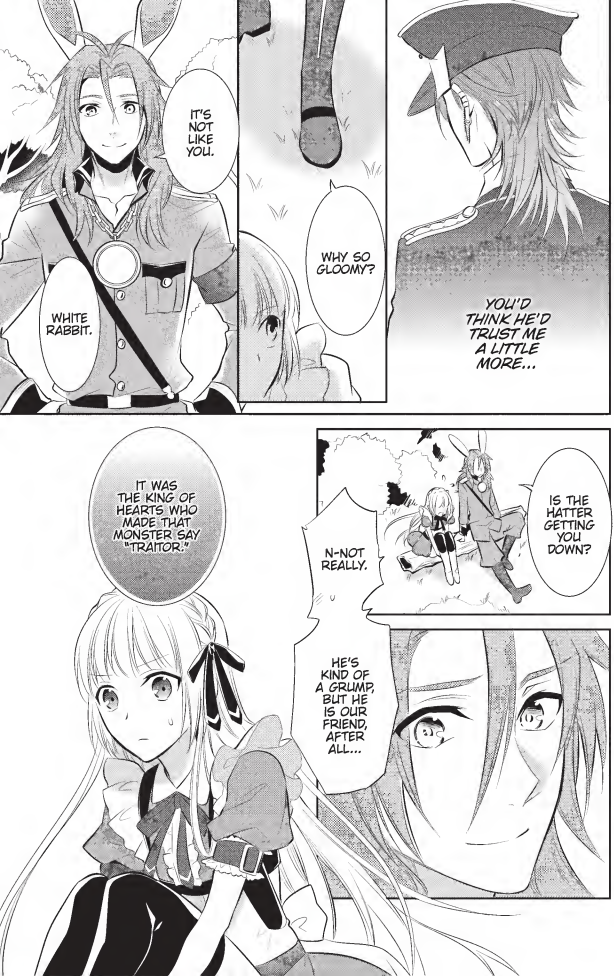

AND HE'S NOT HITTING ON ME THE WAY HE USED TO...
WAIT, WHAT?! IT'S NOT LIKE I WANT HIM TO KEEP DOING IT!!
HATTER...
RUSTLE
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE--
MON-STER!!

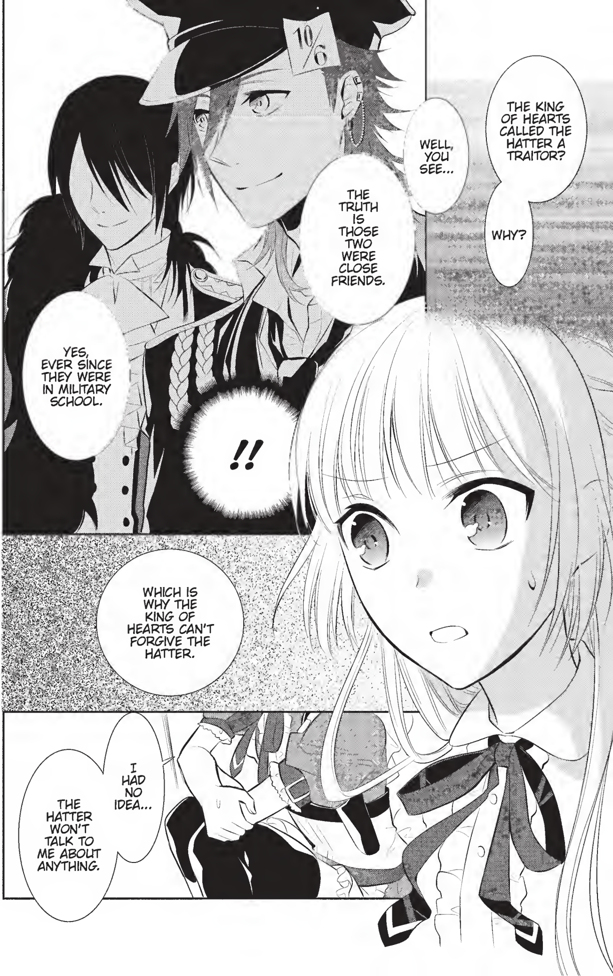

ZING
NGH!
THUK
THUK
THUK
HATTER!!
10/6

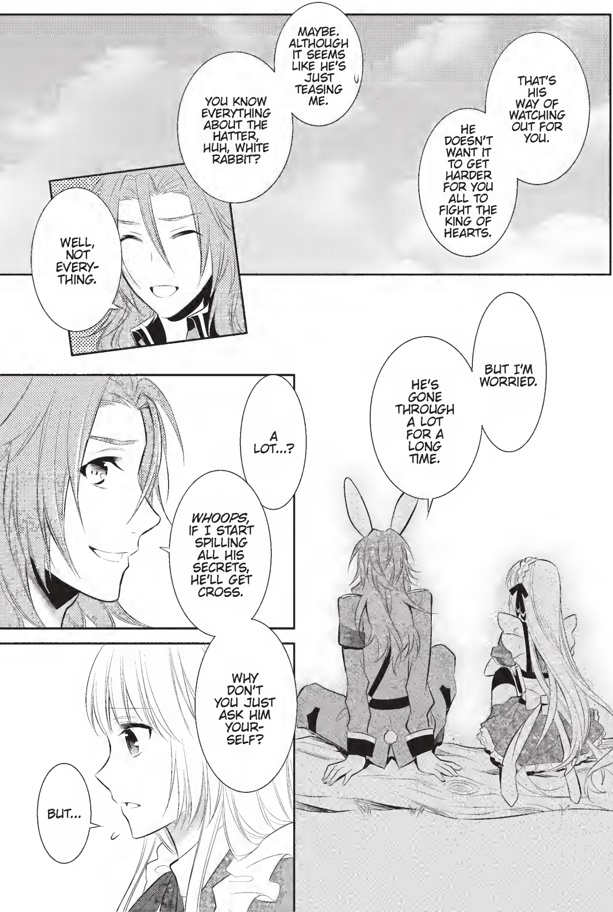

GRAB
10/6
HOW COME IT'S ONLY TARGETING THE HATTER?!
THAT'S --!!
BLAM
Huff
Huff
TR ...

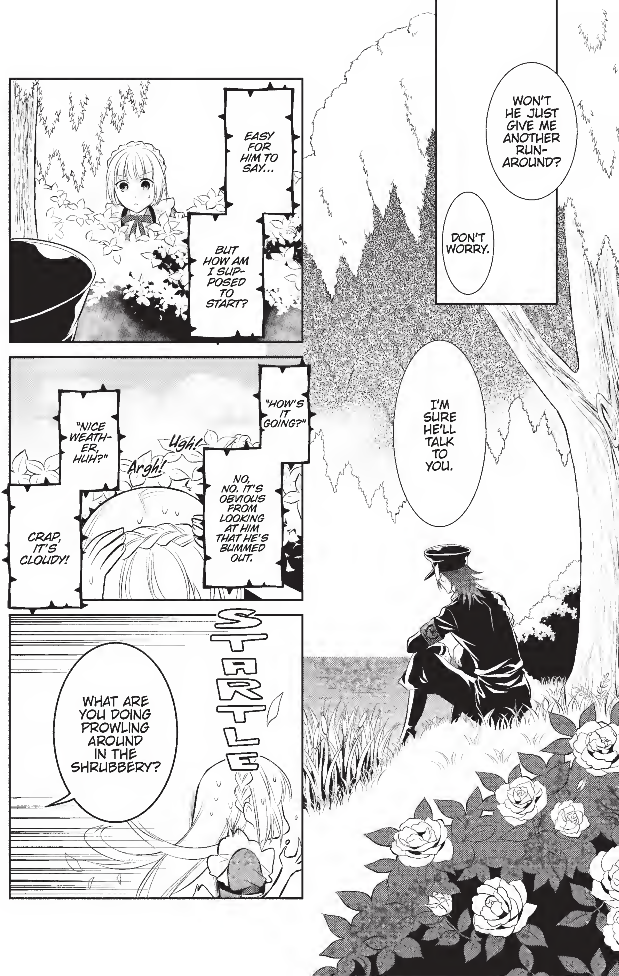

TRAITOR.
THAT THING CAN *TALK*?!
NO...
THAT WAS PROBABLY *HIS* VOICE.
"HIS"?

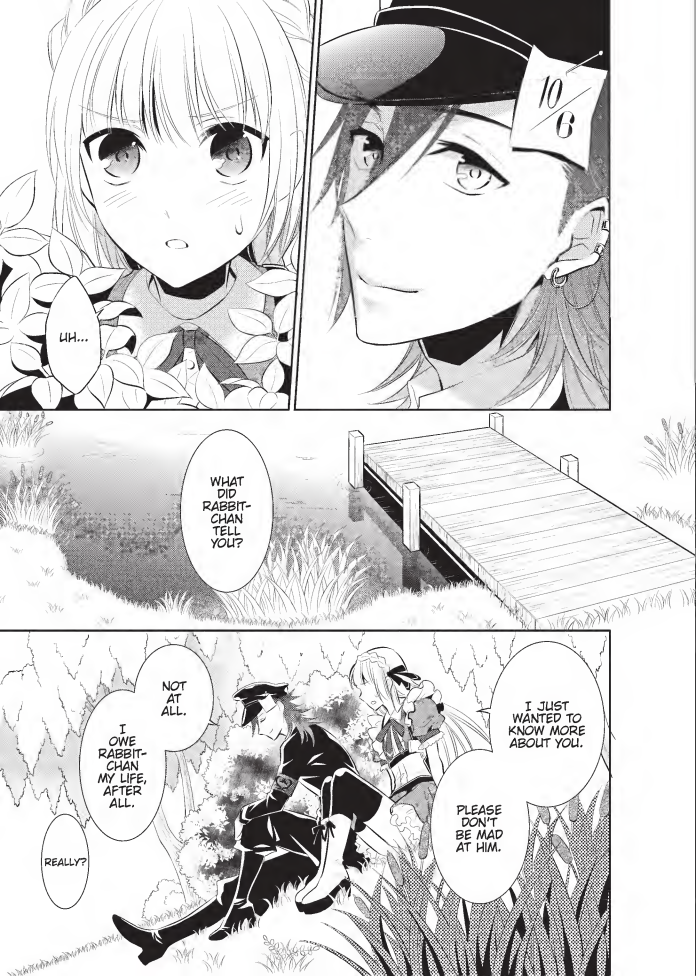

HOW ABOUT WE REST A BIT?
I WONDER WHAT'S TROUBLING THE HATTER...
OF COURSE, IF I ASK, HE'LL JUST BRUSH ME OFF WITH "IT'S A SECRET."
I'LL NEVER GET ANYTHING OUT OF HIM.

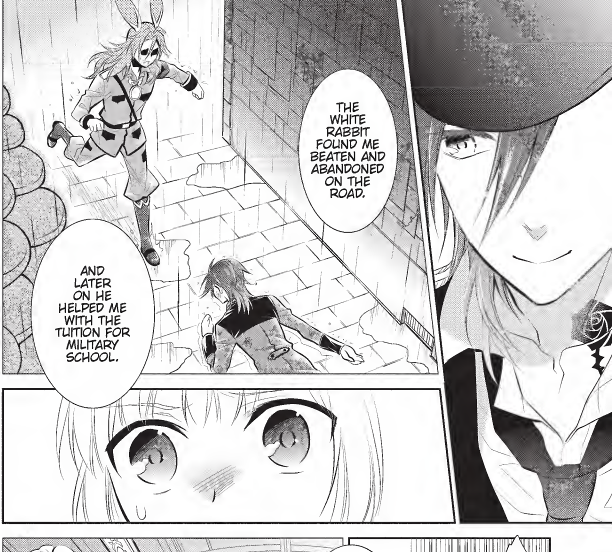

YOU'D THINK HE'D TRUST ME A LITTLE MORE...
WHY SO GLOOMY?
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU.
WHITE RABBIT.
IS THE HATTER GETTING YOU DOWN?
N-NOT REALLY.
HE'S KIND OF A GRUMP, BUT HE IS OUR FRIEND, AFTER ALL...
IT WAS THE KING OF HEARTS WHO MADE THAT MONSTER SAY "TRAITOR."

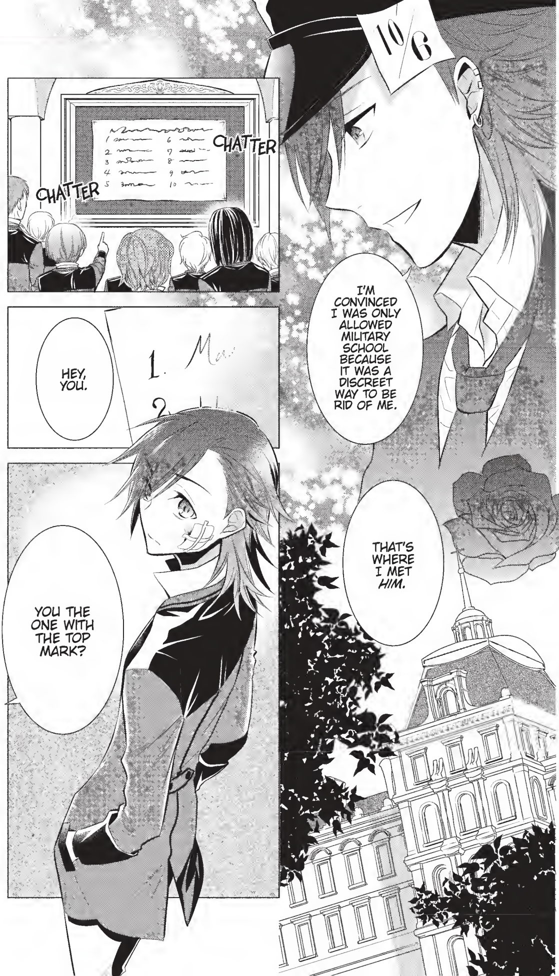

10/6
THE KING OF HEARTS CALLED THE HATTER A TRAITOR?
WHY?
WELL, YOU SEE...
THE TRUTH IS THOSE TWO WERE CLOSE FRIENDS.
YES, EVER SINCE THEY WERE IN MILITARY SCHOOL.
!!
WHICH IS WHY THE KING OF HEARTS CAN'T FORGIVE THE HATTER.
I HAD NO IDEA...
THE HATTER WON'T TALK TO ME ABOUT ANYTHING.

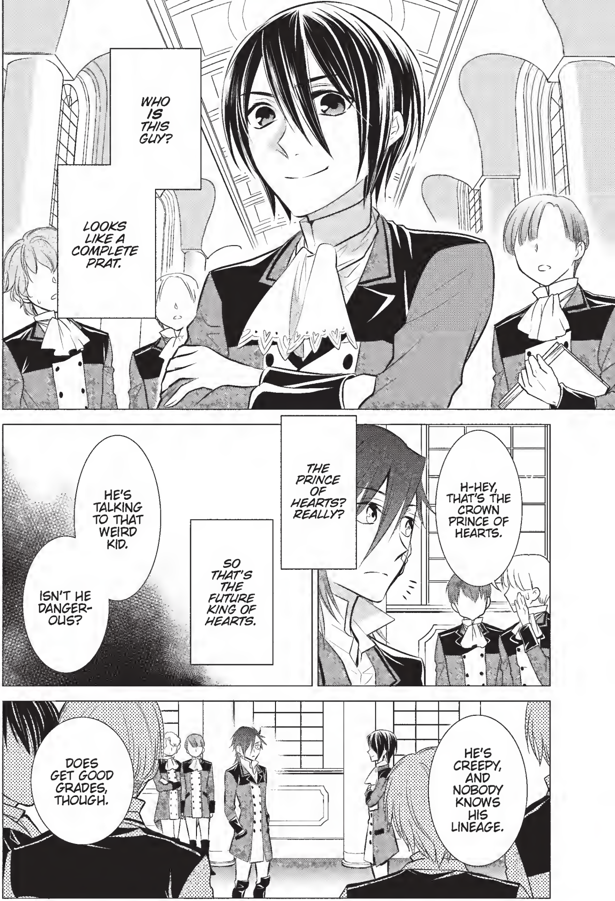

THAT'S HIS WAY OF WATCHING OUT FOR YOU.
HE DOESN'T WANT IT TO GET HARDER FOR YOU ALL TO FIGHT THE KING OF HEARTS.
MAYBE. ALTHOUGH IT SEEMS LIKE HE'S JUST TEASING ME.
YOU KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT THE HATTER, HUH, WHITE RABBIT?
WELL, NOT EVERYTHING.
BUT I'M WORRIED.
HE'S GONE THROUGH A LOT FOR A LONG TIME.
A LOT...?
WHOOPS, IF I START SPILLING ALL HIS SECRETS, HE'LL GET CROSS.
WHY DON'T YOU JUST ASK HIM YOURSELF?
BUT...

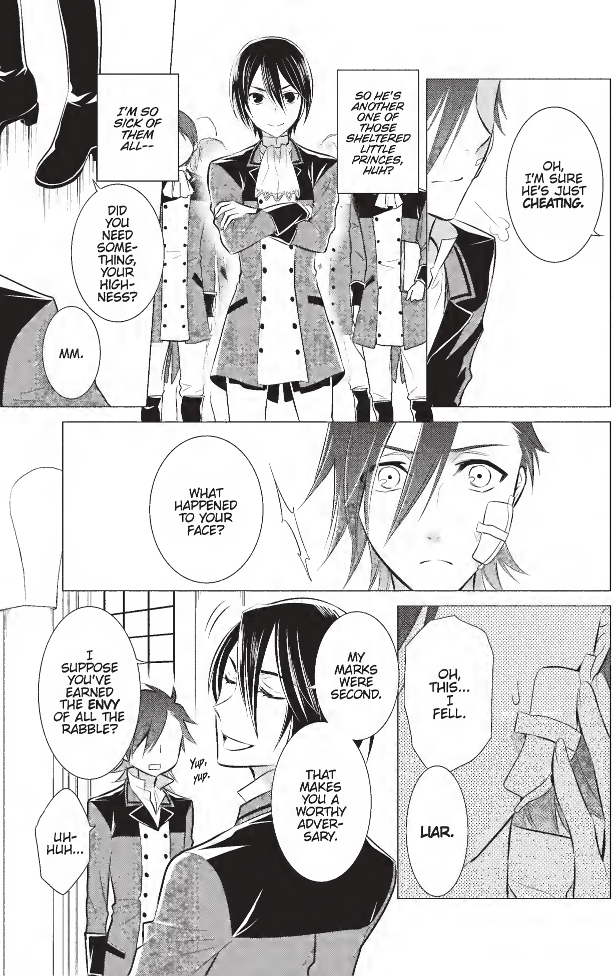

WON'T HE JUST GIVE ME ANOTHER RUN-AROUND?
DON'T WORRY.
I'M SURE HE'LL TALK TO YOU.
EASY FOR HIM TO SAY...
BUT HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO START?
"HOW'S IT GOING?"
NO, NO. IT'S OBVIOUS FROM LOOKING AT HIM THAT HE'S BUMMED OUT.
Ugh!
Argh!
"NICE WEATHER, HUH?"
CRAP, IT'S CLOUDY!
STARTLE
WHAT ARE YOU DOING PROWLING AROUND IN THE SHRUBBERY?

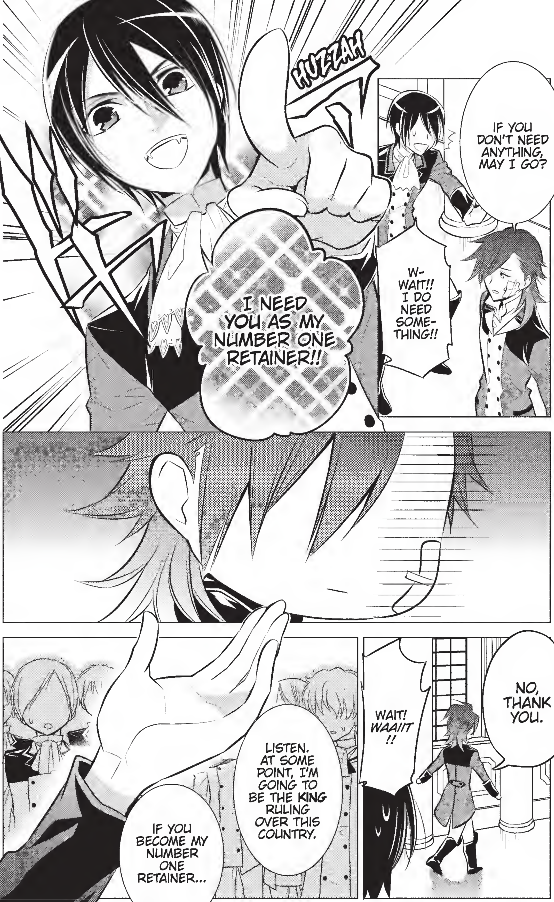

10/6
UH...
WHAT DID RABBIT-CHAN TELL YOU?
I JUST WANTED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT YOU.
PLEASE DON'T BE MAD AT HIM.
NOT AT ALL.
I OWE RABBIT-CHAN MY LIFE, AFTER ALL.
REALLY?

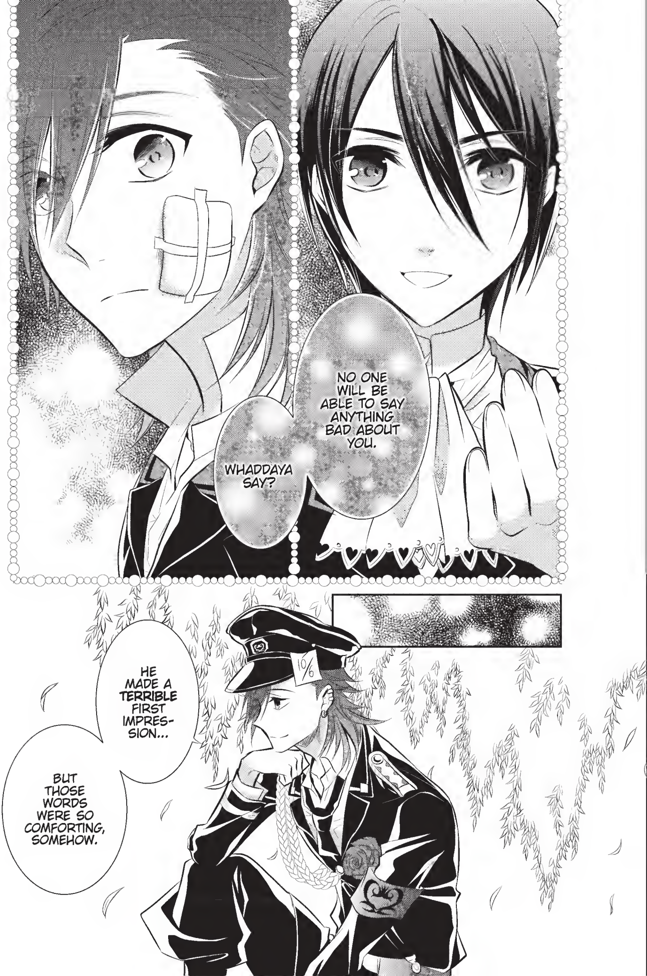

THE WHITE RABBIT FOUND ME BEATEN AND ABANDONED ON THE ROAD.
AND LATER ON HE HELPED ME WITH THE TUITION FOR MILITARY SCHOOL.
BEATEN...?
I WAS THE CHILD OF A NOBLE'S CONCUBINE.
HIS ACTUAL WIFE NEGLECTED ME, AND I WAS SUBJECTED TO ELABORATE TORMENTS.

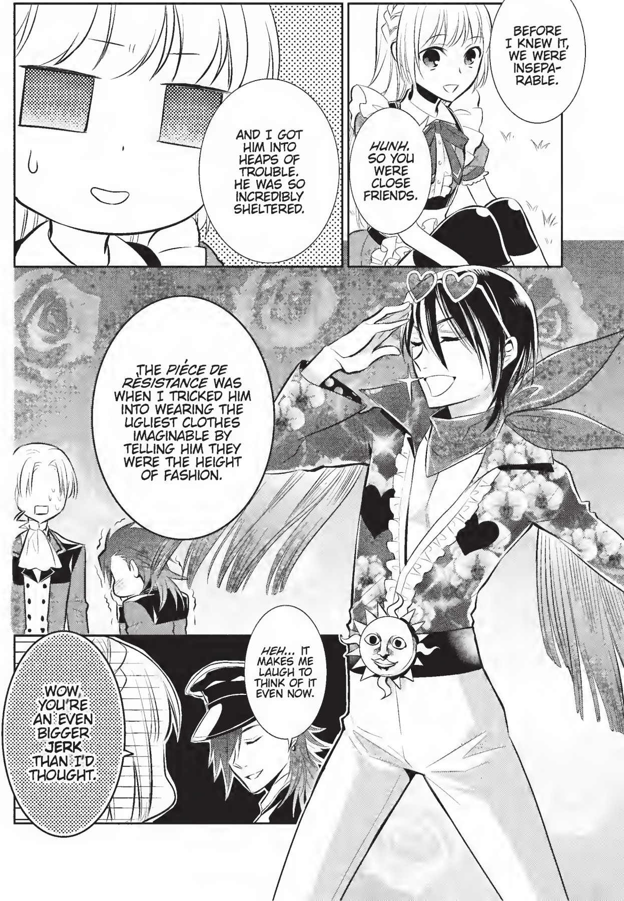

10/6
I'M CONVINCED I WAS ONLY ALLOWED MILITARY SCHOOL BECAUSE IT WAS A DISCREET WAY TO BE RID OF ME.
THAT'S WHERE I MET *HIM*.
CHATTER
CHATTER
HEY, YOU.
YOU THE ONE WITH THE TOP MARK?

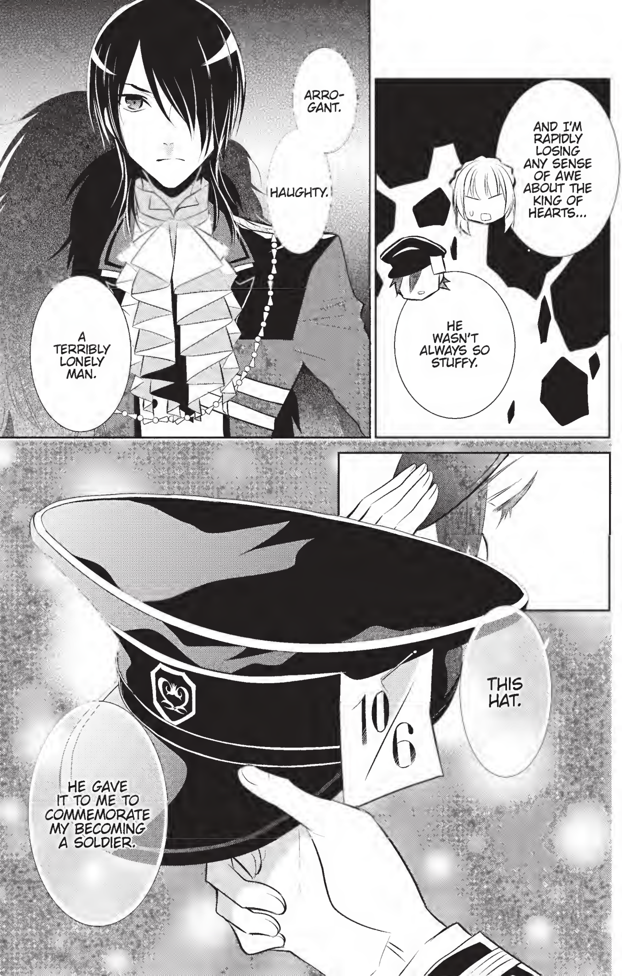

WHO *IS* THIS GUY?
LOOKS LIKE A COMPLETE PRAT.
H-HEY, THAT'S THE CROWN PRINCE OF HEARTS.
THE PRINCE OF HEARTS? REALLY?
SO THAT'S THE FUTURE KING OF HEARTS.
HE'S TALKING TO THAT WEIRD KID.
ISN'T HE DANGEROUS?
HE'S CREEPY, AND NOBODY KNOWS HIS LINEAGE.
DOES GET GOOD GRADES, THOUGH.

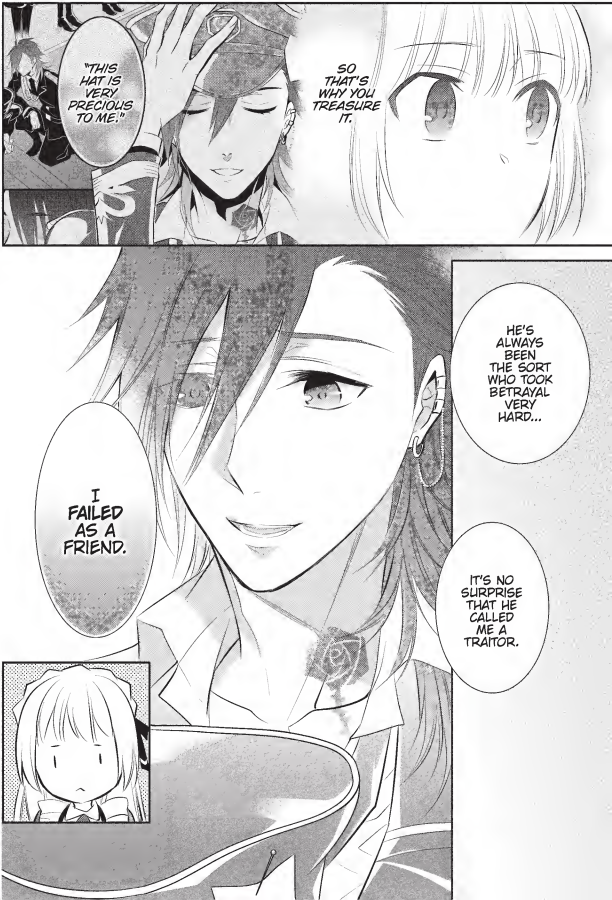

OH, I'M SURE HE'S JUST **CHEATING.**
SO HE'S ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE SHELTERED LITTLE PRINCES, HUH?
I'M SO SICK OF THEM ALL--
DID YOU NEED SOMETHING, YOUR HIGHNESS?
MM.
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FACE?
OH, THIS... I FELL.
LIAR.
I SUPPOSE YOU'VE EARNED THE **ENVY** OF ALL THE RABBLE?
Yup, yup.
MY MARKS WERE SECOND.
THAT MAKES YOU A WORTHY ADVERSARY.
UH-HUH...

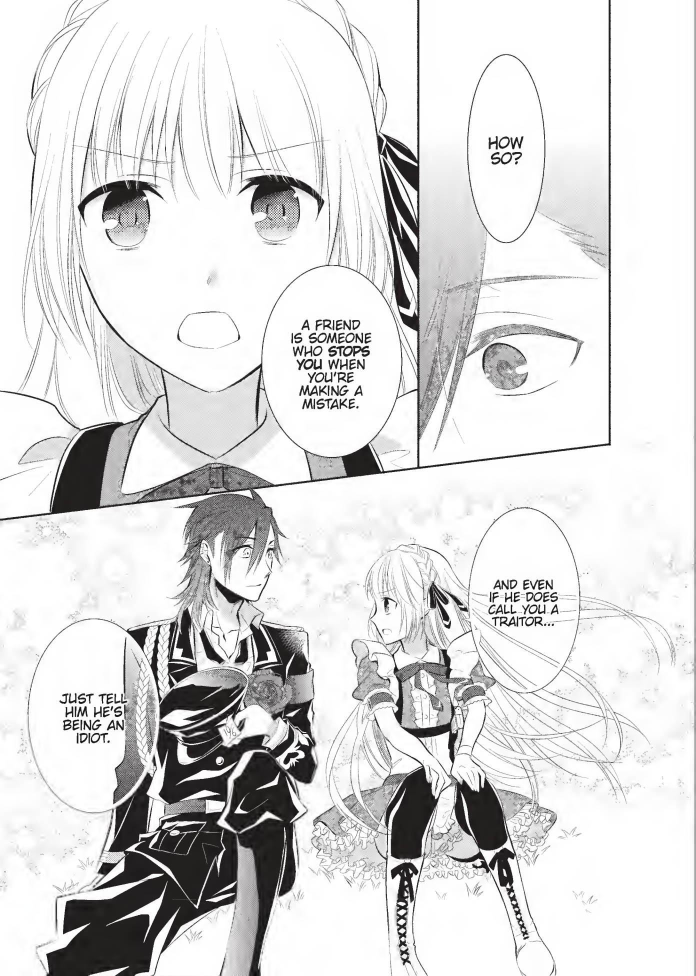

IF YOU DON'T NEED ANYTHING, MAY I GO?
W-WAIT!! I DO NEED SOME-THING!!
HUZZAH
I NEED YOU AS MY NUMBER ONE RETAINER!!
NO, THANK YOU.
WAIT! WAAIIT!!
LISTEN. AT SOME POINT, I'M GOING TO BE THE KING RULING OVER THIS COUNTRY.
IF YOU BECOME MY NUMBER ONE RETAINER...

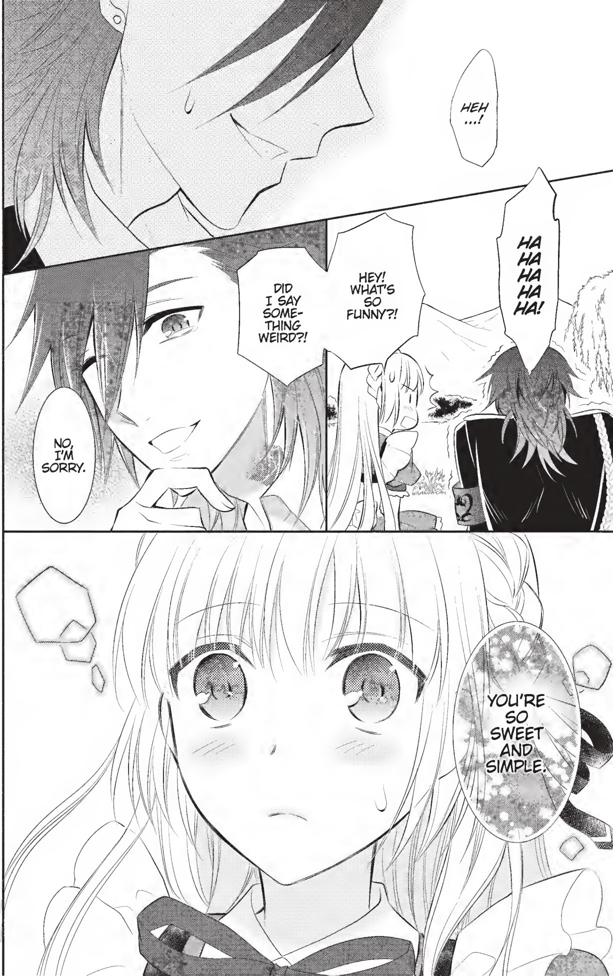

NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO SAY ANYTHING BAD ABOUT YOU.
WHADDAYA SAY?
10/6
HE MADE A **TERRIBLE** FIRST IMPRESSION...
BUT THOSE WORDS WERE SO COMFORTING, SOMEHOW.

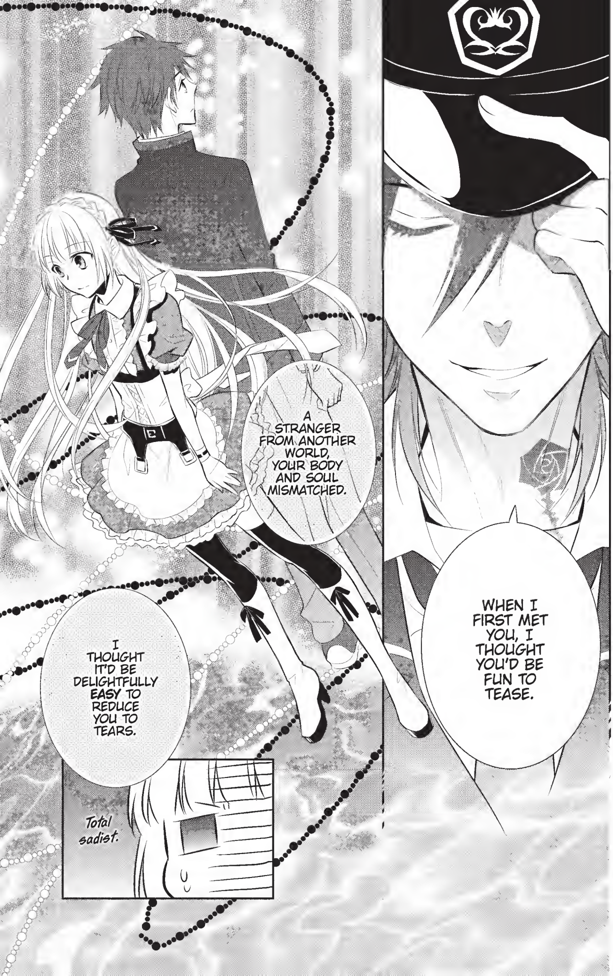

BEFORE I KNEW IT, WE WERE INSEPARABLE.
HUNH. SO YOU WERE CLOSE FRIENDS.
AND I GOT HIM INTO HEAPS OF TROUBLE. HE WAS SO INCREDIBLY SHELTERED.
THE *PIÉCE DE RÉSISTANCE* WAS WHEN I TRICKED HIM INTO WEARING THE UGLIEST CLOTHES IMAGINABLE BY TELLING HIM THEY WERE THE HEIGHT OF FASHION.
HEH... IT MAKES ME LAUGH TO THINK OF IT EVEN NOW.
WOW, YOU'RE AN EVEN BIGGER **JERK** THAN I'D THOUGHT.

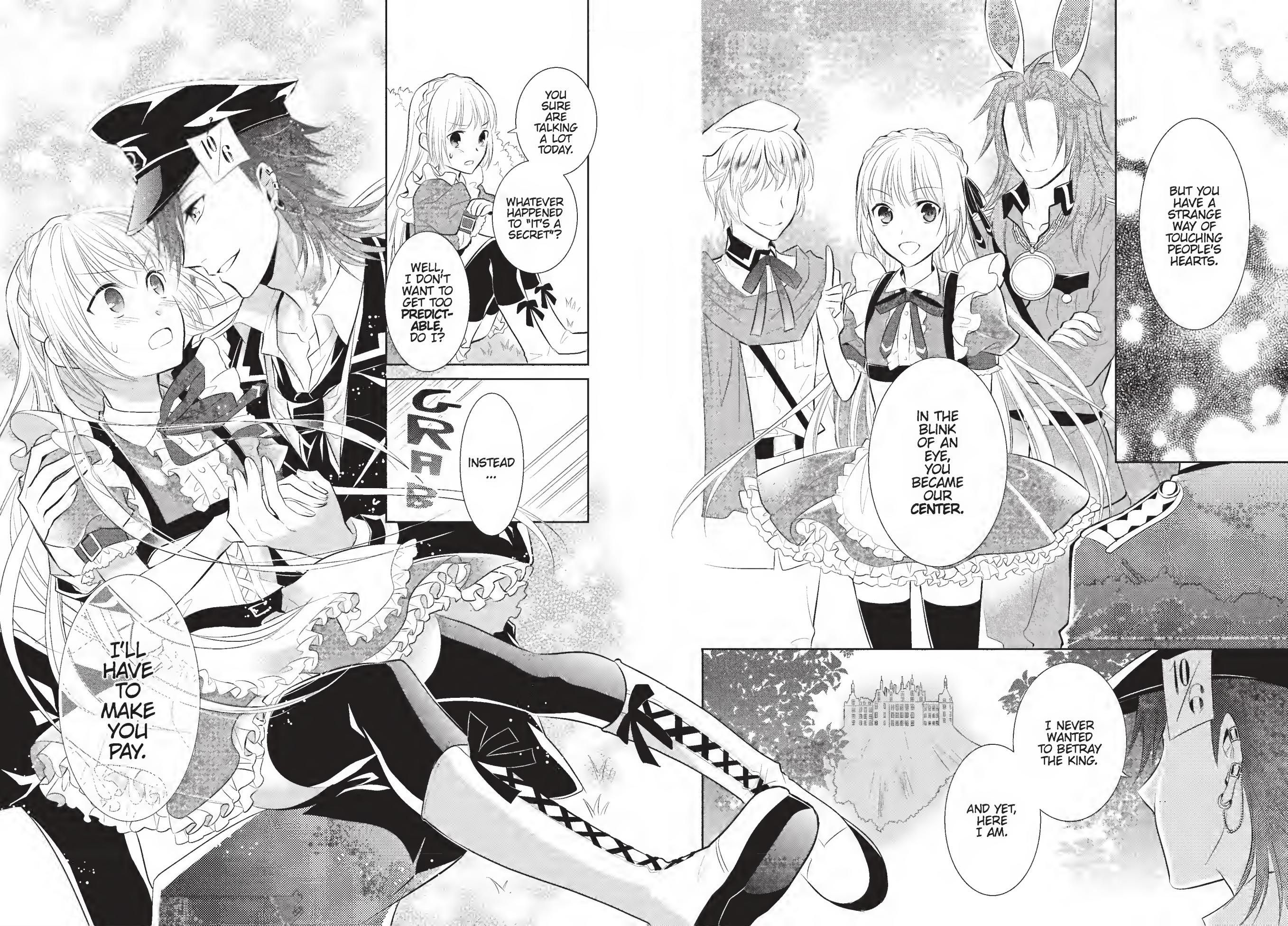

AND I'M RAPIDLY LOSING ANY SENSE OF AWE ABOUT THE KING OF HEARTS...
HE WASN'T ALWAYS SO STUFFY.
ARROGANT.
HAUGHTY.
A TERRIBLY LONELY MAN.
10/6
THIS HAT.
HE GAVE IT TO ME TO COMMEMORATE MY BECOMING A SOLDIER.

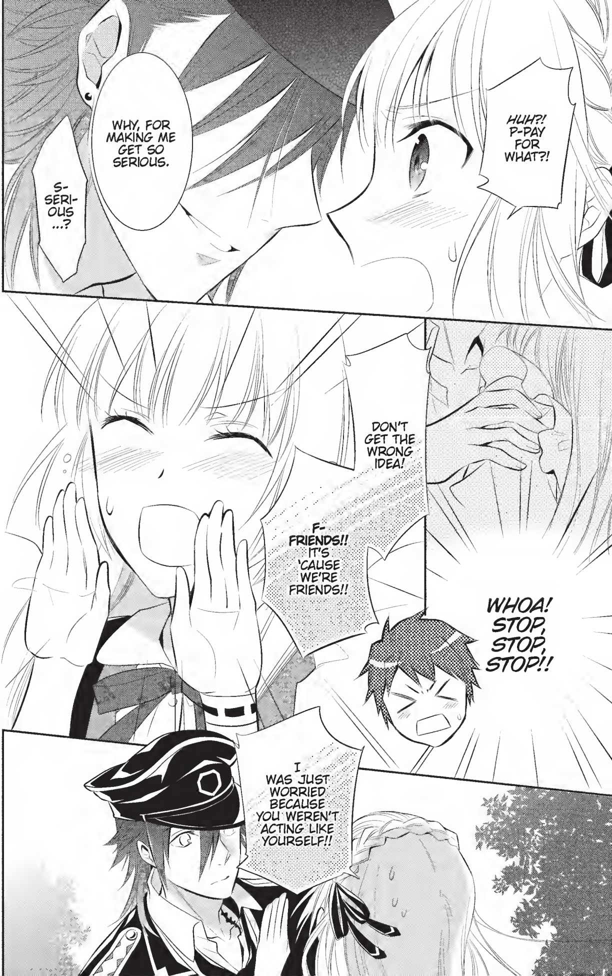

SO THAT'S WHY YOU TREASURE IT.
"THIS HAT IS VERY PRECIOUS TO ME."
HE'S ALWAYS BEEN THE SORT WHO TOOK BETRAYAL VERY HARD...
IT'S NO SURPRISE THAT HE CALLED ME A TRAITOR.
I FAILED AS A FRIEND.

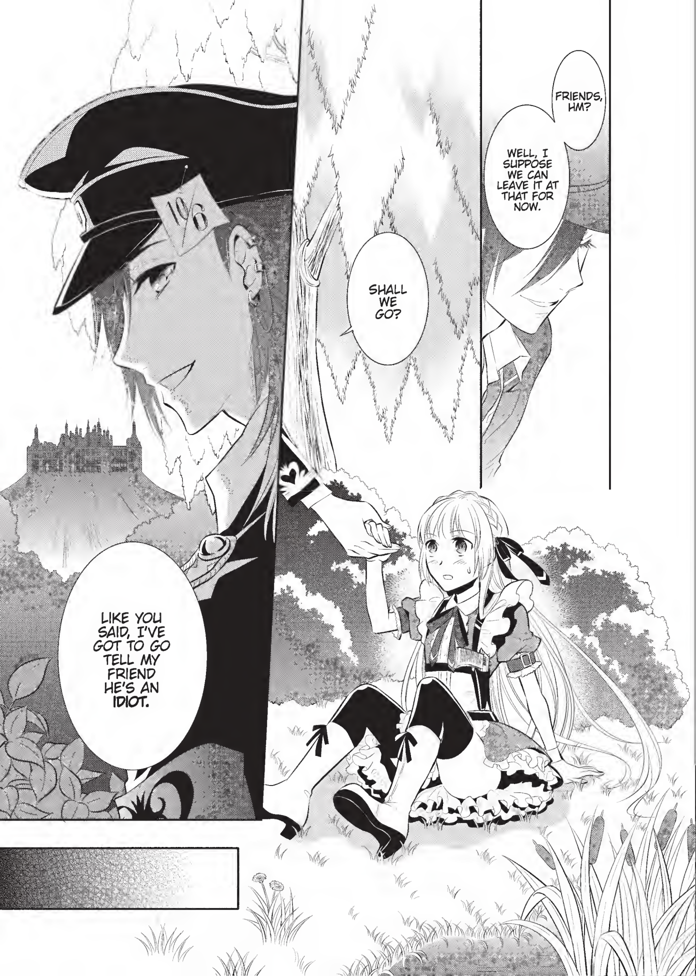

HOW SO?
A FRIEND IS SOMEONE WHO **STOPS YOU** WHEN YOU'RE MAKING A MISTAKE.
AND EVEN IF HE DOES CALL YOU A TRAITOR...
JUST TELL HIM HE'S BEING AN IDIOT.

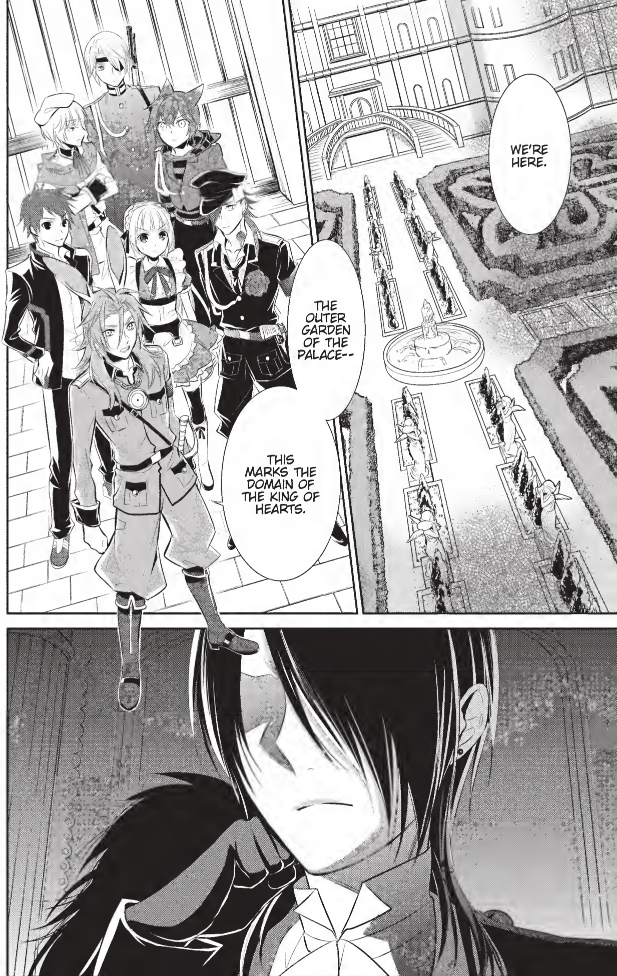

HEH ...!
HA HA HA HA HA!
HEY! WHAT'S SO FUNNY?!
DID I SAY SOMETHING WEIRD?!
NO, I'M SORRY.
YOU'RE SO SWEET AND SIMPLE.


A STRANGER FROM ANOTHER WORLD, YOUR BODY AND SOUL MISMATCHED.
WHEN I FIRST MET YOU, I THOUGHT YOU'D BE FUN TO TEASE.
I THOUGHT IT'D BE DELIGHTFULLY **EASY** TO REDUCE YOU TO TEARS.
Total sadist.


BUT YOU HAVE A STRANGE WAY OF TOUCHING PEOPLE'S HEARTS.
IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE, YOU BECAME OUR **CENTER.**
I NEVER WANTED TO BETRAY THE KING.
AND YET, HERE I AM.
YOU SURE ARE TALKING A LOT TODAY.
WHATEVER HAPPENED TO "IT'S A SECRET"?
WELL, I DON'T WANT TO GET TOO **PREDICTABLE,** DO I?
GRAB
INSTEAD...
I'LL HAVE TO MAKE YOU PAY.


HUH?! P-PAY FOR WHAT?!
WHY, FOR MAKING ME GET SO SERIOUS.
S-SERIOUS...?
DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA!
F-FRIENDS!! IT'S 'CAUSE WE'RE FRIENDS!!
WHOA! STOP, STOP, STOP!!
I WAS JUST WORRIED BECAUSE YOU WEREN'T ACTING LIKE YOURSELF!!


FRIENDS, HM?
WELL, I SUPPOSE WE CAN LEAVE IT AT THAT FOR NOW.
SHALL WE GO?
LIKE YOU SAID, I'VE GOT TO GO TELL MY FRIEND HE'S AN IDIOT.

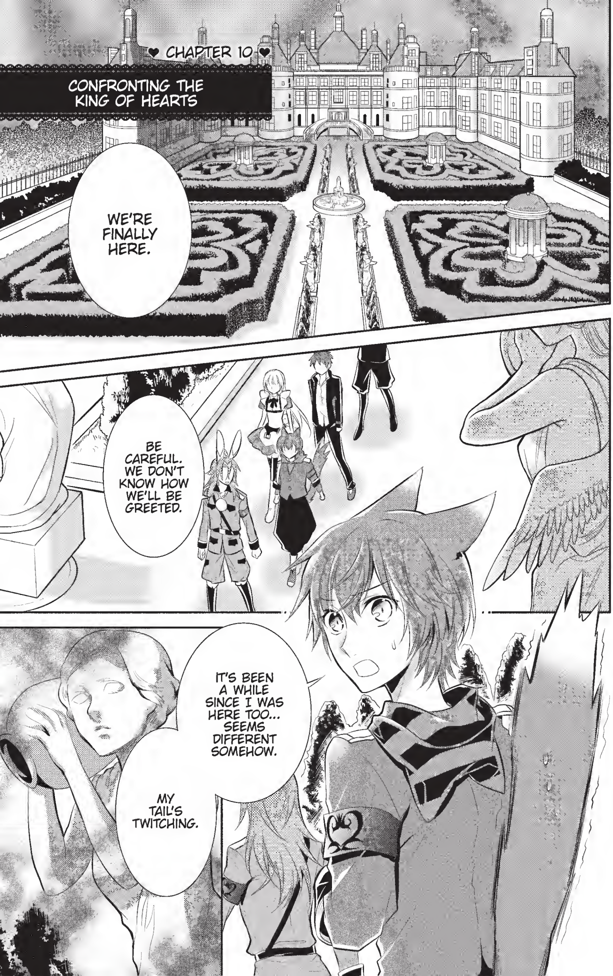

WE'RE HERE.
THE OUTER GARDEN OF THE PALACE--
THIS MARKS THE DOMAIN OF THE KING OF HEARTS.

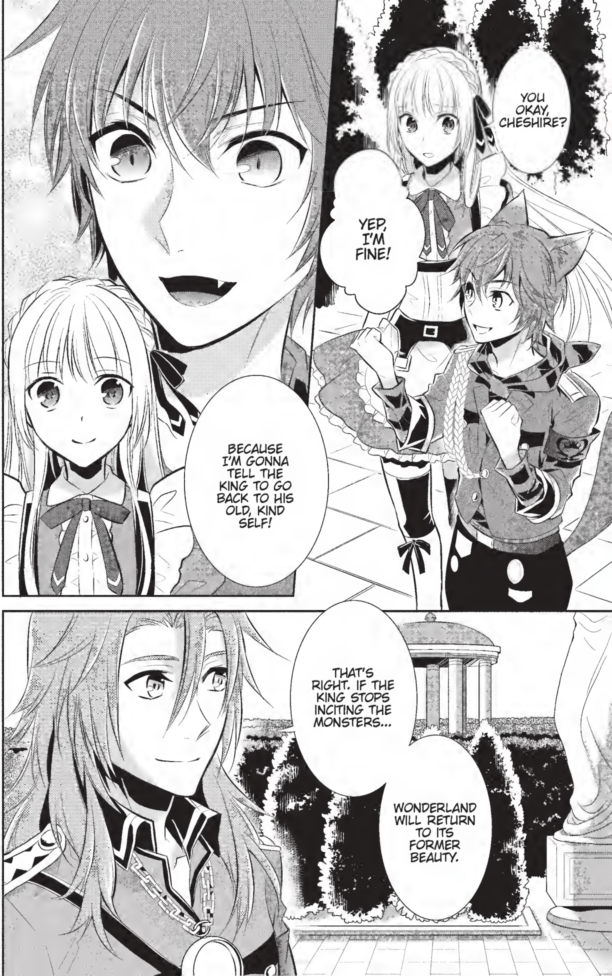
I AM ALICE

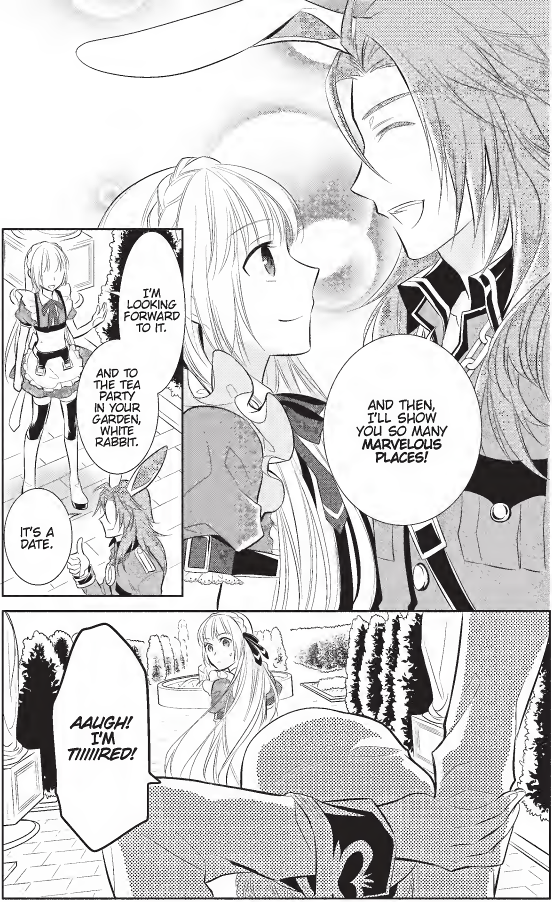
I AM ALICE

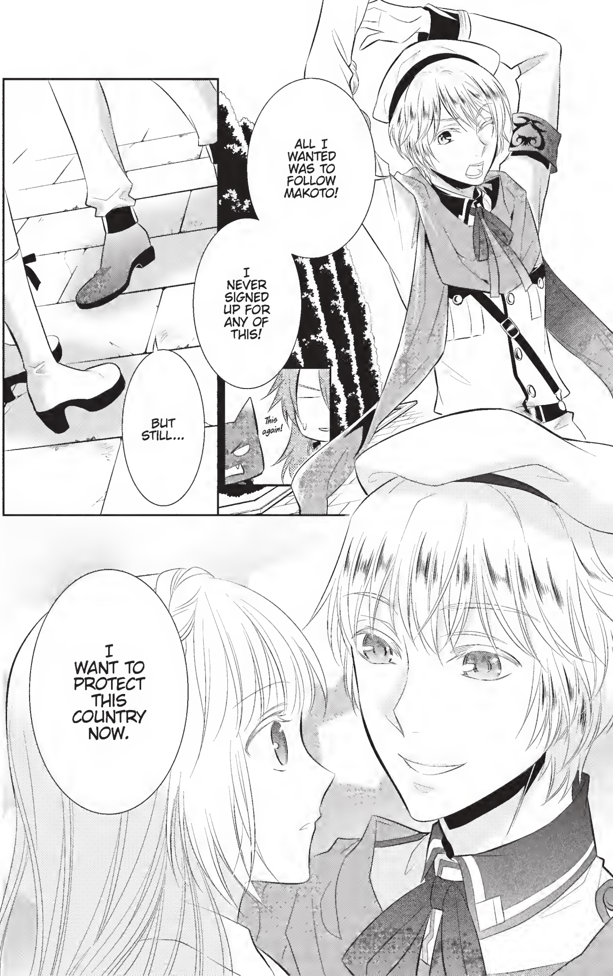
❤ CHAPTER 10 ❤

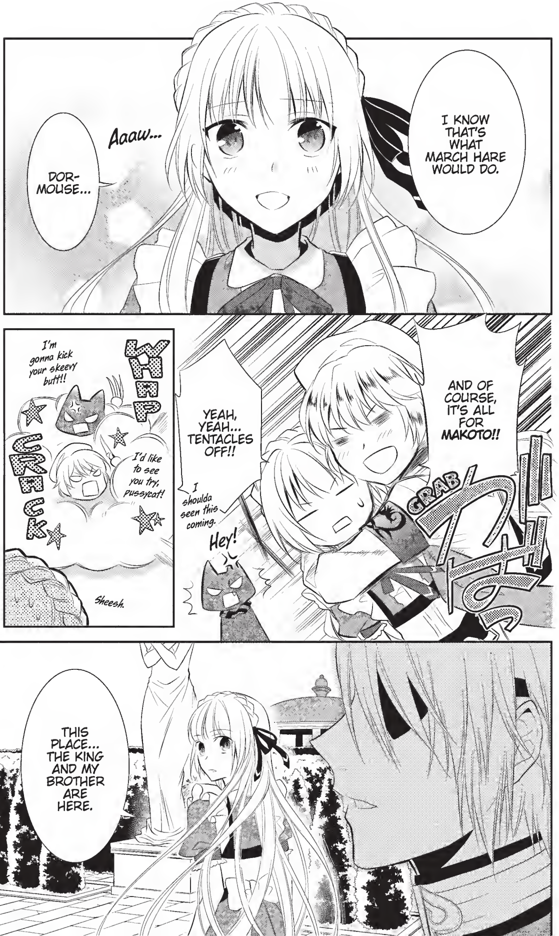
CONFRONTING THE KING OF HEARTS

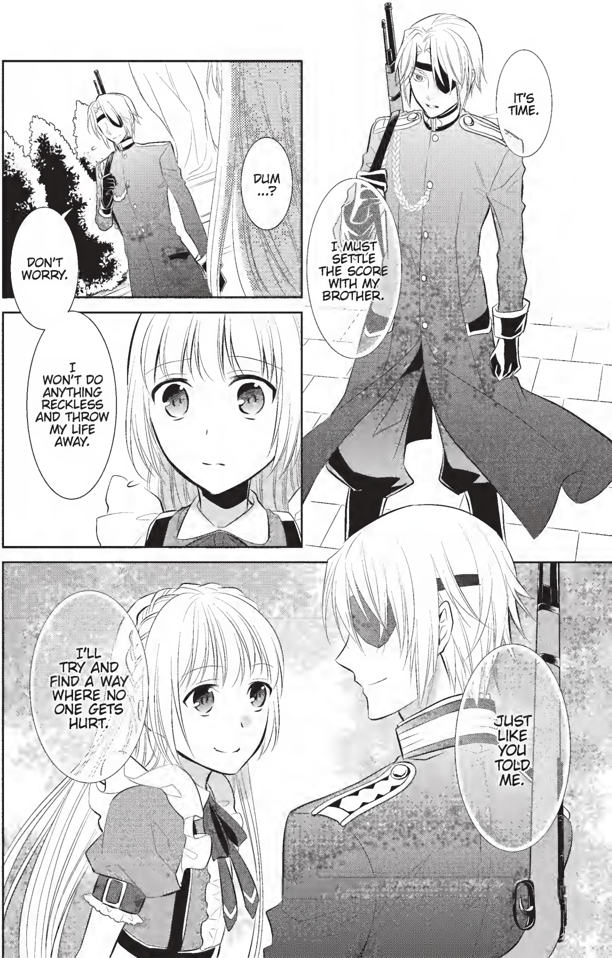

WE'RE FINALLY HERE.
BE CAREFUL. WE DON'T KNOW HOW WE'LL BE GREETED.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I WAS HERE TOO... SEEMS DIFFERENT SOMEHOW.
MY TAIL'S TWITCHING.

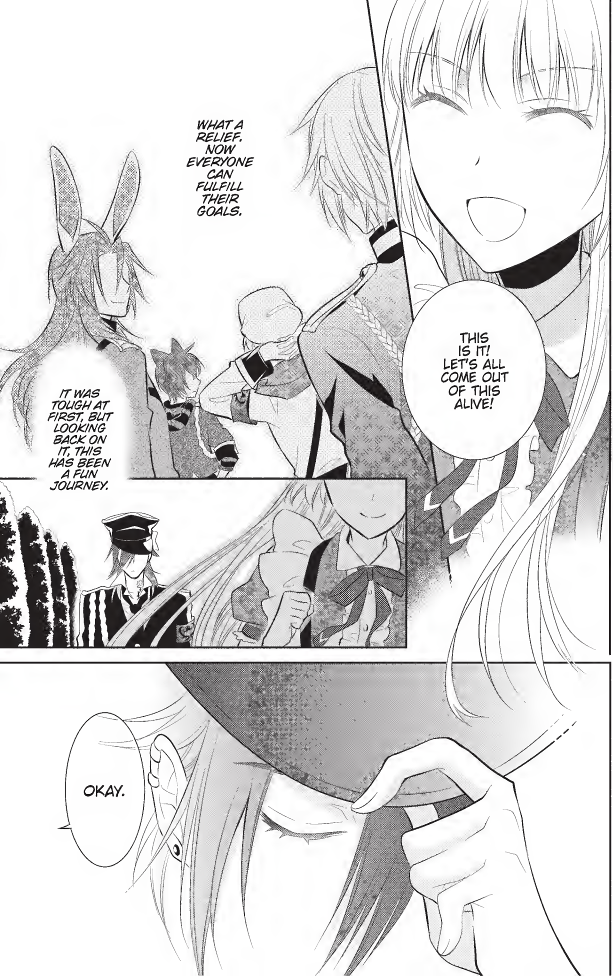

YOU OKAY, CHESHIRE?
YEP, I'M FINE!
BECAUSE I'M GONNA TELL THE KING TO GO BACK TO HIS OLD, KIND SELF!
THAT'S RIGHT. IF THE KING STOPS INCITING THE MONSTERS...
WONDERLAND WILL RETURN TO ITS FORMER BEAUTY.

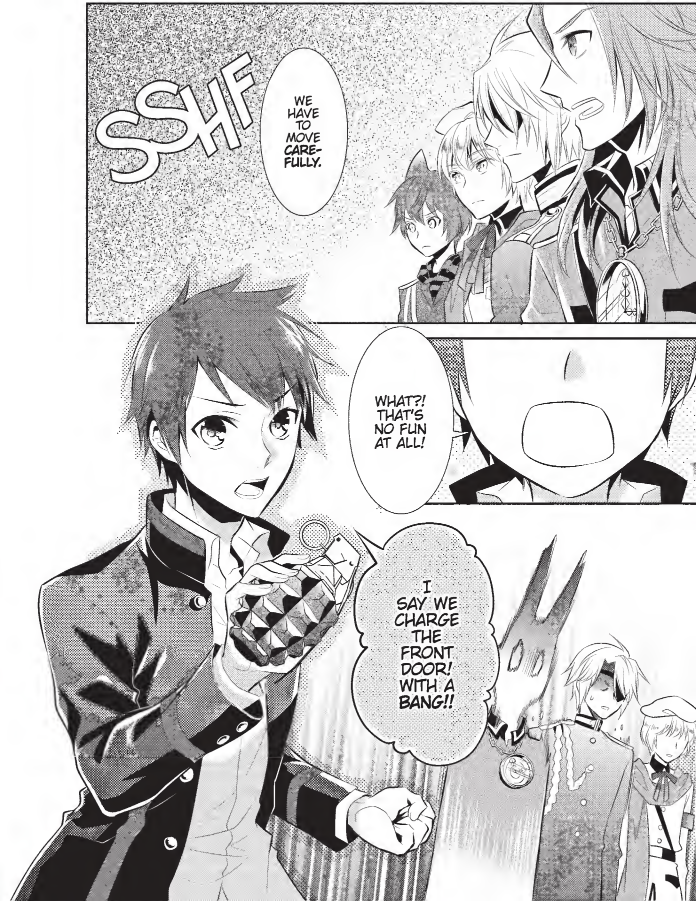

AND THEN, I'LL SHOW YOU SO MANY **MARVELOUS** PLACES!
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.
AND TO THE TEA PARTY IN YOUR GARDEN, WHITE RABBIT.
IT'S A DATE.
AAUGH! I'M TIIIIIRED!

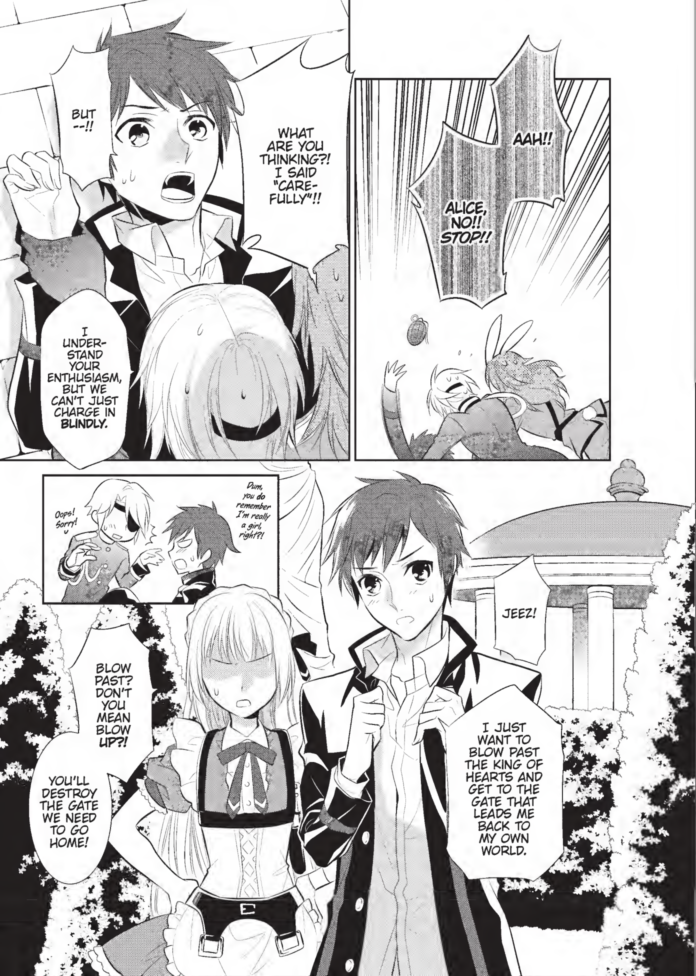

ALL I WANTED WAS TO FOLLOW MAKOTO!
I NEVER SIGNED UP FOR ANY OF THIS!
This again!
BUT STILL...
I WANT TO PROTECT THIS COUNTRY NOW.

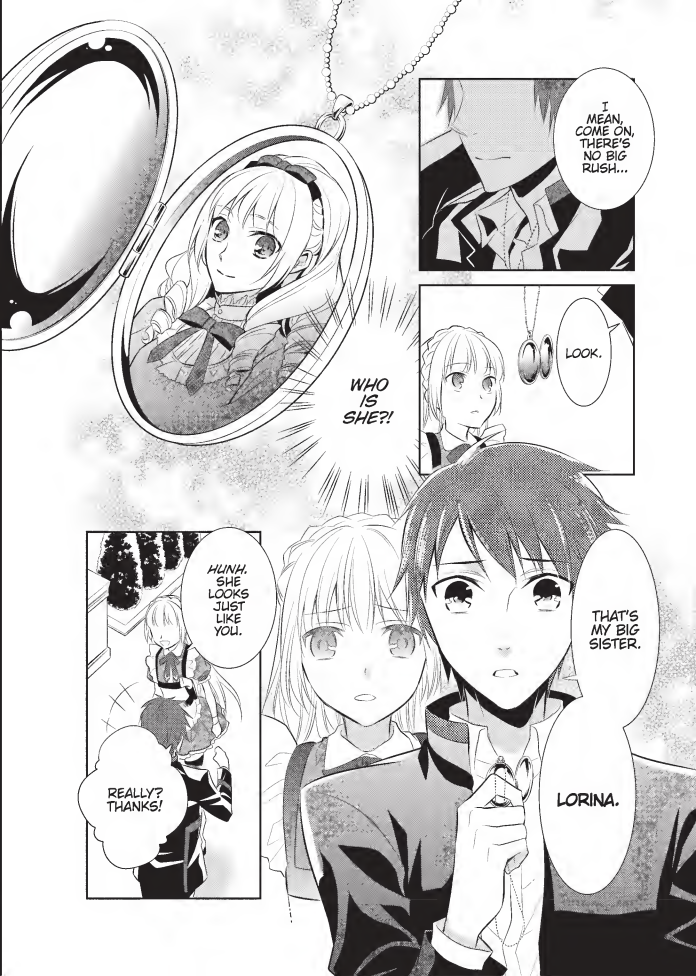

I KNOW THAT'S WHAT MARCH HARE WOULD DO.
Aaaw...
DOR-MOUSE...
AND OF COURSE, IT'S ALL FOR **MAKOTO!!**
GRAB
YEAH, YEAH... TENTACLES OFF!!
I shoulda seen this coming.
Hey!
WHAP
I'm gonna kick your skeevy butt!!
I'd like to see you try, pussycat!
CRACK
Sheesh.
THIS PLACE... THE KING AND MY BROTHER ARE HERE.

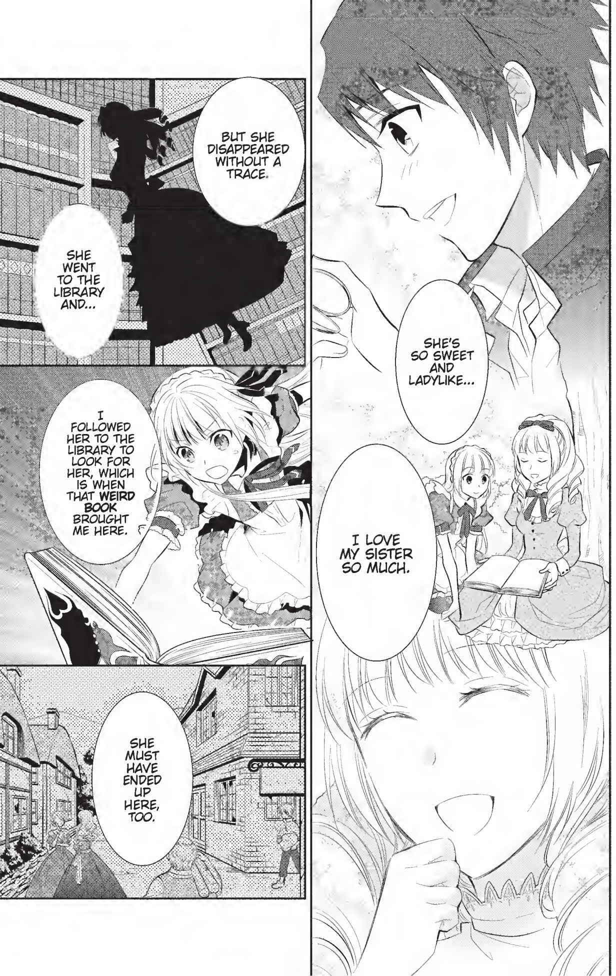

IT'S TIME.
I MUST SETTLE THE SCORE WITH MY BROTHER.
DUM ...?
DON'T WORRY.
I WON'T DO ANYTHING RECKLESS AND THROW MY LIFE AWAY.
JUST LIKE YOU TOLD ME.
I'LL TRY AND FIND A WAY WHERE NO ONE GETS HURT.

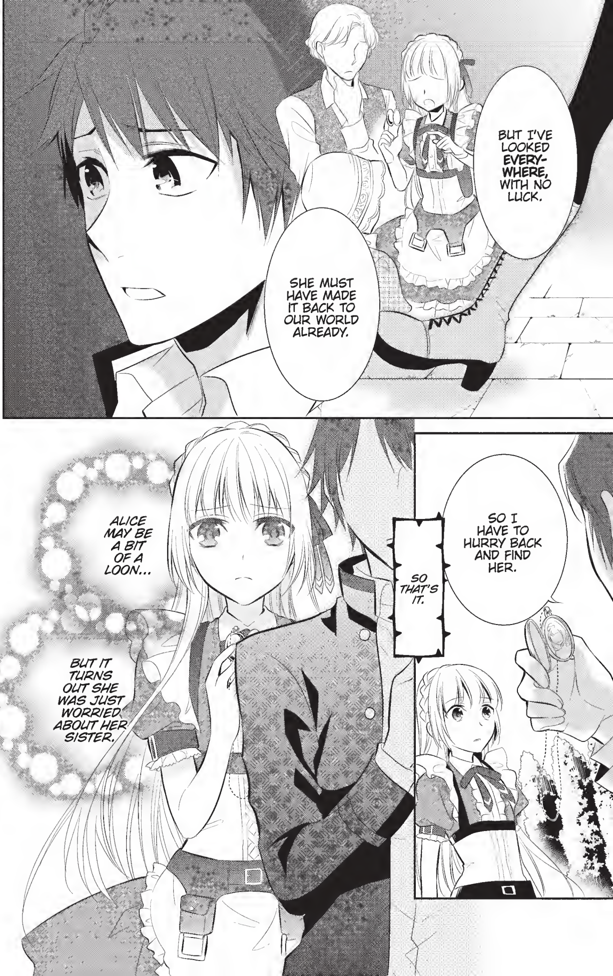

WHAT A RELIEF. NOW EVERYONE CAN FULFILL THEIR GOALS.
THIS IS IT! LET'S ALL COME OUT OF THIS ALIVE!
IT WAS TOUGH AT FIRST, BUT LOOKING BACK ON IT, THIS HAS BEEN A FUN JOURNEY.
OKAY.

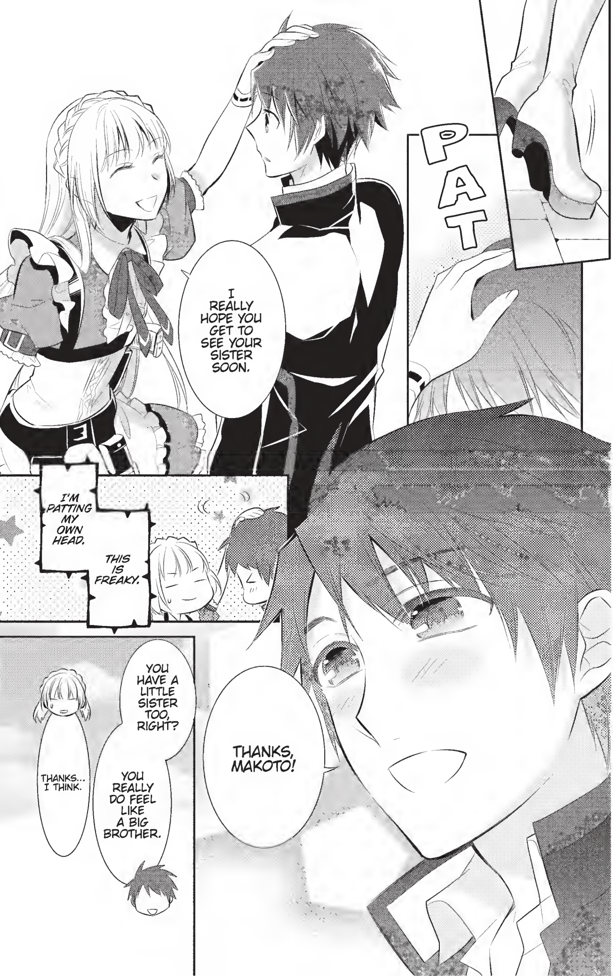

SSHF
WE HAVE TO MOVE CAREFULLY.
WHAT?! THAT'S NO FUN AT ALL!
I SAY WE CHARGE THE FRONT DOOR! WITH A BANG!!

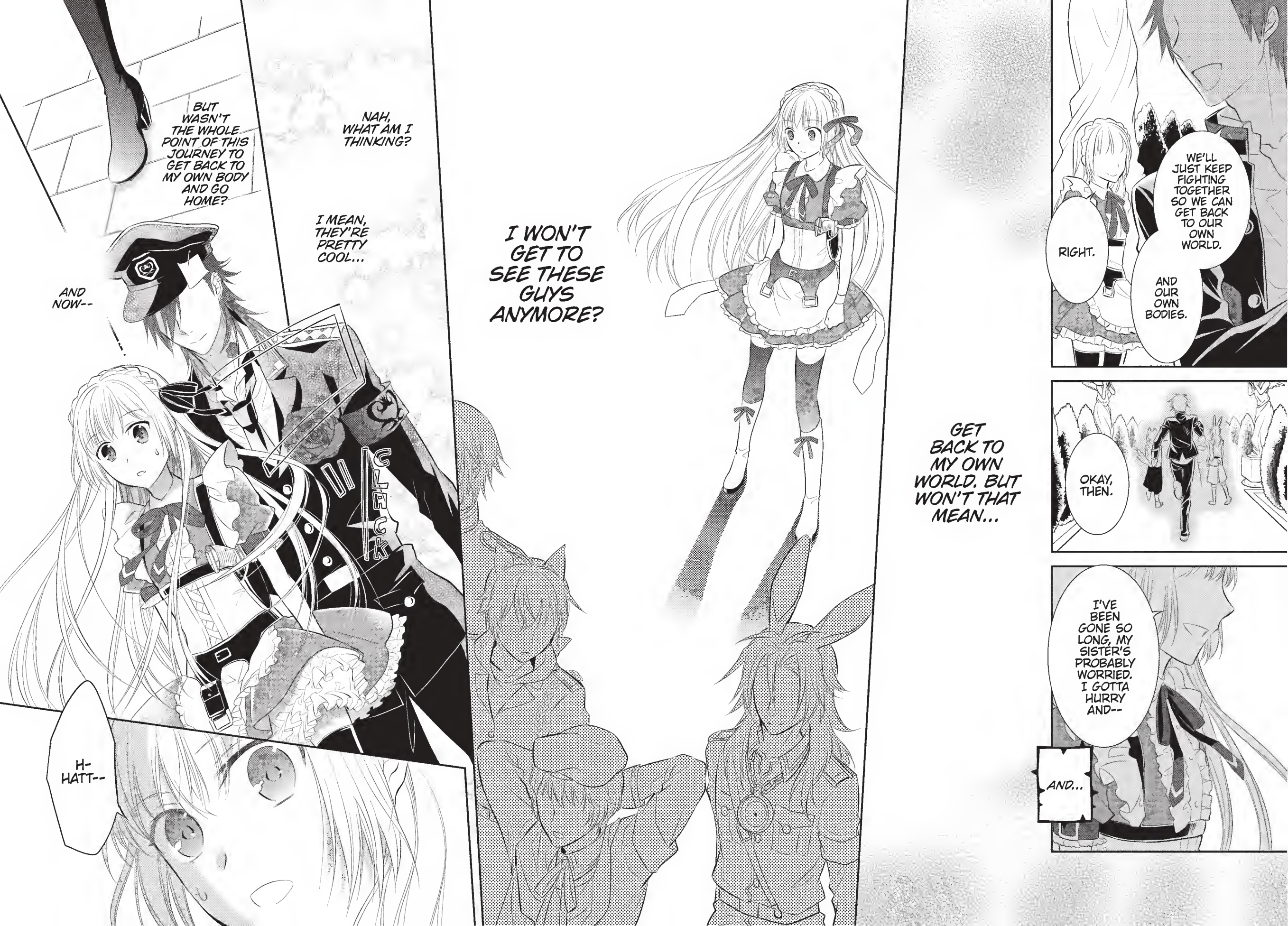

AAH!!
ALICE, NO!! STOP!!
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?! I SAID "CAREFULLY"!!
BUT --!!
I UNDERSTAND YOUR ENTHUSIASM, BUT WE CAN'T JUST CHARGE IN **BLINDLY.**
JEEZ!
I JUST WANT TO BLOW PAST THE KING OF HEARTS AND GET TO THE GATE THAT LEADS ME BACK TO MY OWN WORLD.
BLOW PAST? DON'T YOU MEAN BLOW **UP?!**
YOU'LL DESTROY THE GATE WE NEED TO GO HOME!
Dum, you do remember I'm really a girl, right?!
Oops! Sorry!

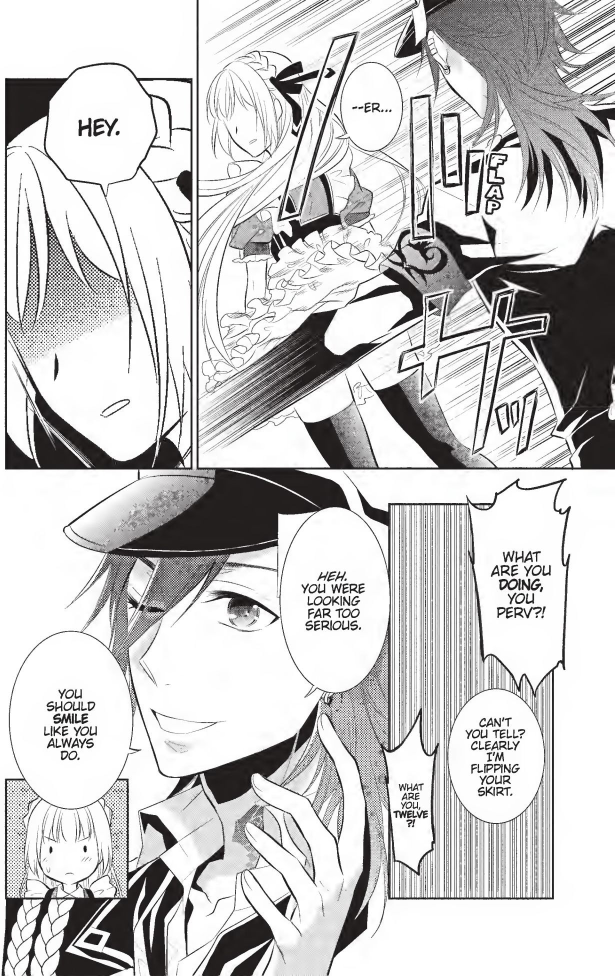

I MEAN, COME ON, THERE'S NO BIG RUSH...
LOOK.
WHO IS SHE?!
THAT'S MY BIG SISTER.
LORINA.
HUNH. SHE LOOKS JUST LIKE YOU.
REALLY? THANKS!

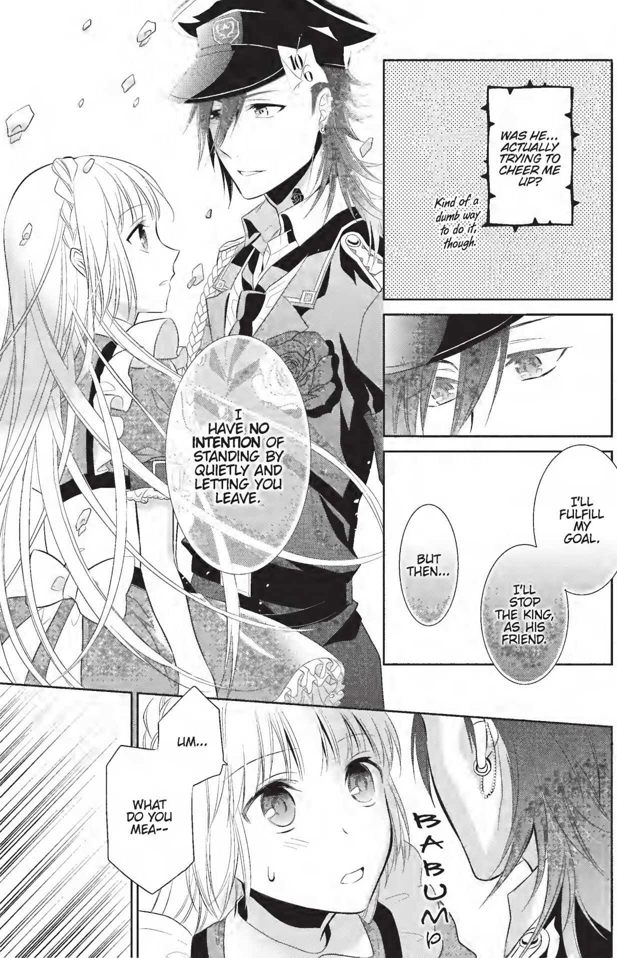

SHE'S SO SWEET AND LADYLIKE...
I LOVE MY SISTER SO MUCH.
BUT SHE DISAPPEARED WITHOUT A TRACE.
SHE WENT TO THE LIBRARY AND...
I FOLLOWED HER TO THE LIBRARY TO LOOK FOR HER, WHICH IS WHEN THAT **WEIRD BOOK** BROUGHT ME HERE.
SHE MUST HAVE ENDED UP HERE, TOO.

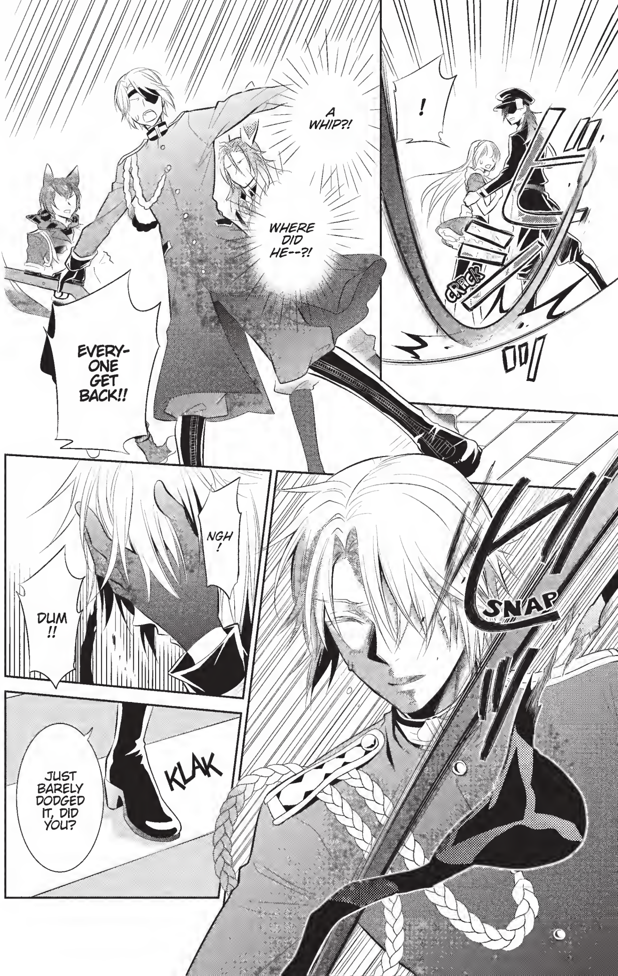

BUT I'VE LOOKED EVERY-WHERE, WITH NO LUCK.
SHE MUST HAVE MADE IT BACK TO OUR WORLD ALREADY.
SO I HAVE TO HURRY BACK AND FIND HER.
SO THAT'S IT.
ALICE MAY BE A BIT OF A LOON...
BUT IT TURNS OUT SHE WAS JUST WORRIED ABOUT HER SISTER.

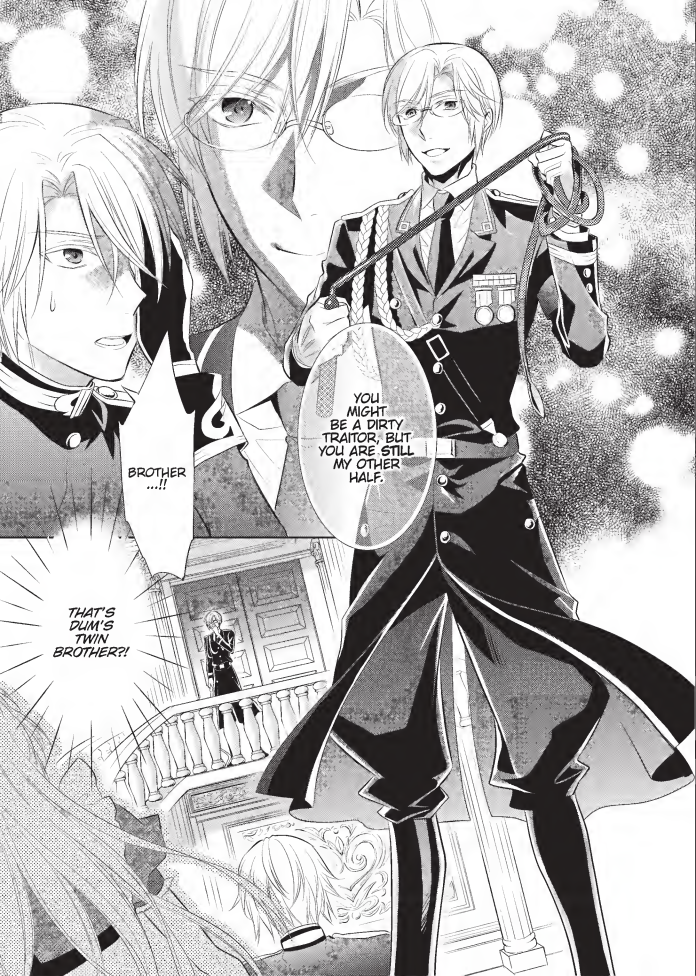

PAT
I REALLY HOPE YOU GET TO SEE YOUR SISTER SOON.
I'M PATTING MY OWN HEAD.
THIS IS FREAKY.
THANKS, MAKOTO!
YOU HAVE A LITTLE SISTER TOO, RIGHT?
YOU REALLY DO FEEL LIKE A BIG BROTHER.
THANKS... I THINK.

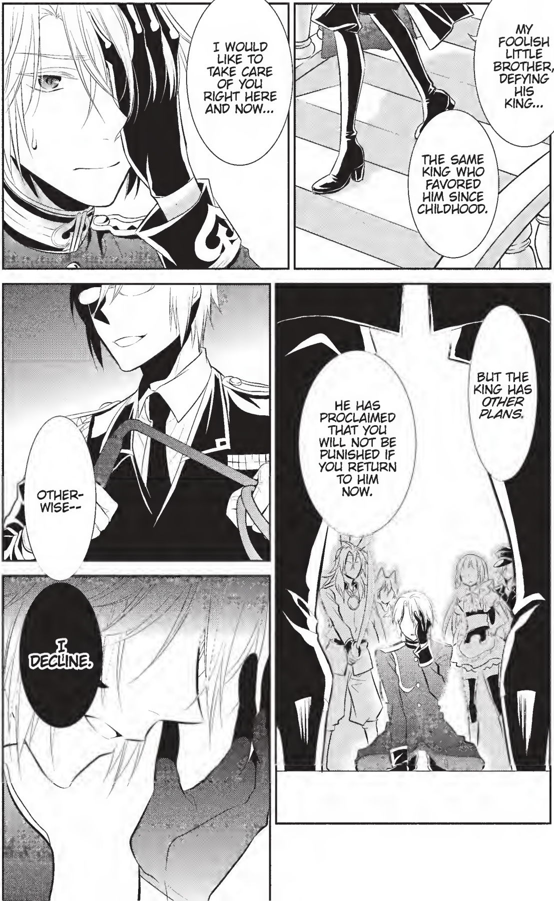

WE'LL JUST KEEP FIGHTING TOGETHER SO WE CAN GET BACK TO OUR OWN WORLD.
RIGHT.
AND OUR OWN BODIES.
OKAY, THEN.
GET BACK TO MY OWN WORLD. BUT WON'T THAT MEAN...
I'VE BEEN GONE SO LONG, MY SISTER'S PROBABLY WORRIED. I GOTTA HURRY AND--
AND...
I WON'T GET TO SEE THESE GUYS ANYMORE?
NAH, WHAT AM I THINKING?
BUT WASN'T THE WHOLE POINT OF THIS JOURNEY TO GET BACK TO MY OWN BODY AND GO HOME?
I MEAN, THEY'RE PRETTY COOL...
AND NOW--
CLACK
H-HATT--

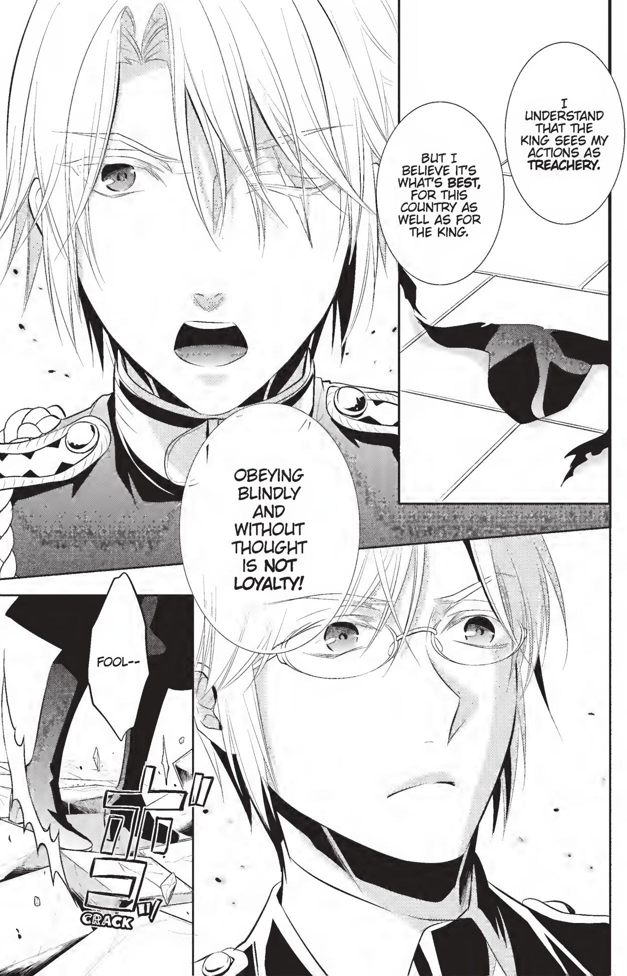

--ER...
FLAP
HEY.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, YOU PERV?!
CAN'T YOU TELL? CLEARLY I'M FLIPPING YOUR SKIRT.
WHAT ARE YOU, TWELVE?!
HEH. YOU WERE LOOKING FAR TOO SERIOUS.
YOU SHOULD SMILE LIKE YOU ALWAYS DO.

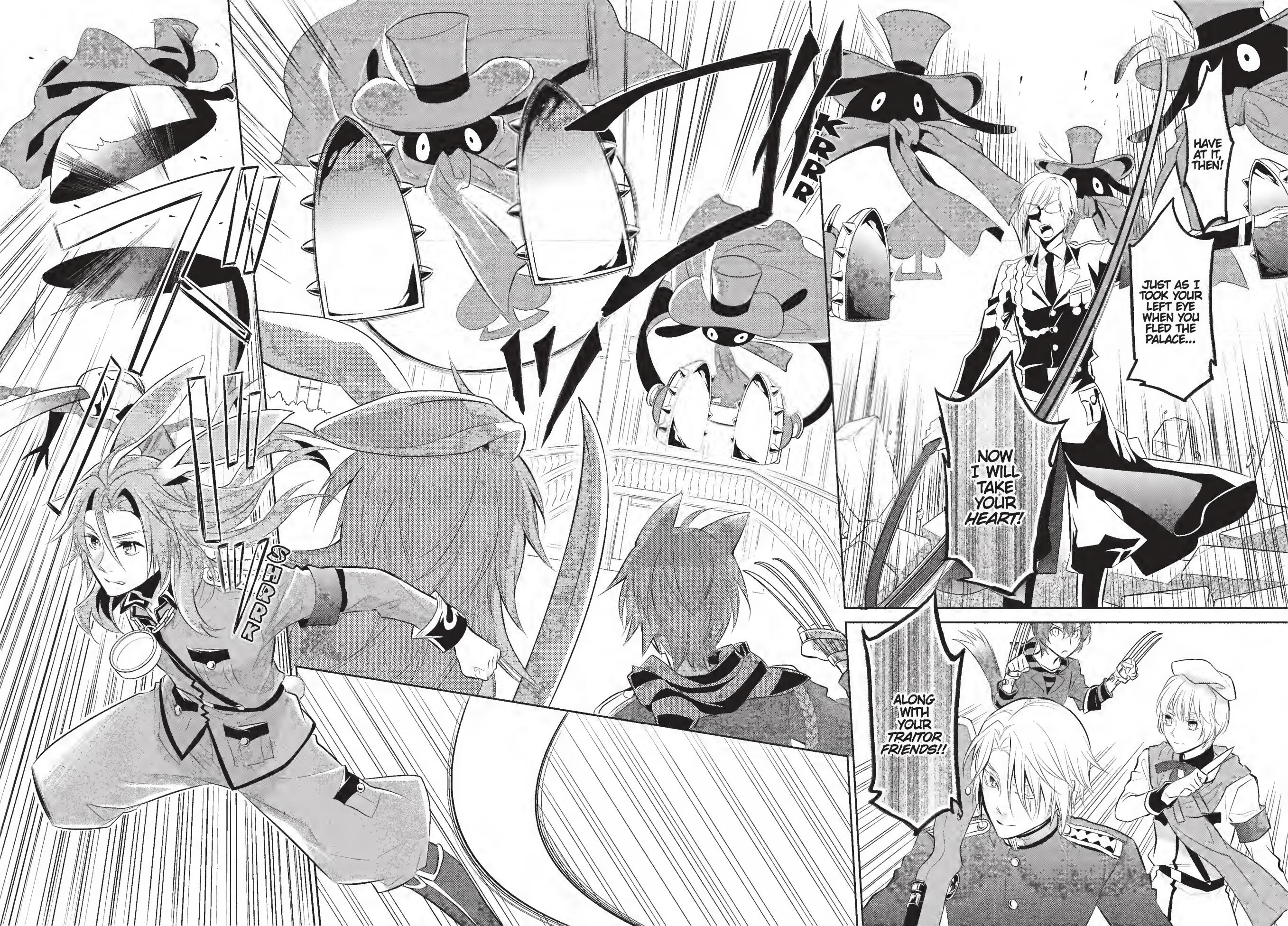

WAS HE... ACTUALLY TRYING TO CHEER ME UP?
Kind of a dumb way to do it, though.
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF STANDING BY QUIETLY AND LETTING YOU LEAVE.
I'LL FULFILL MY GOAL.
BUT THEN...
I'LL STOP THE KING, AS HIS FRIEND.
UM...
WHAT DO YOU MEA--
BABUMP

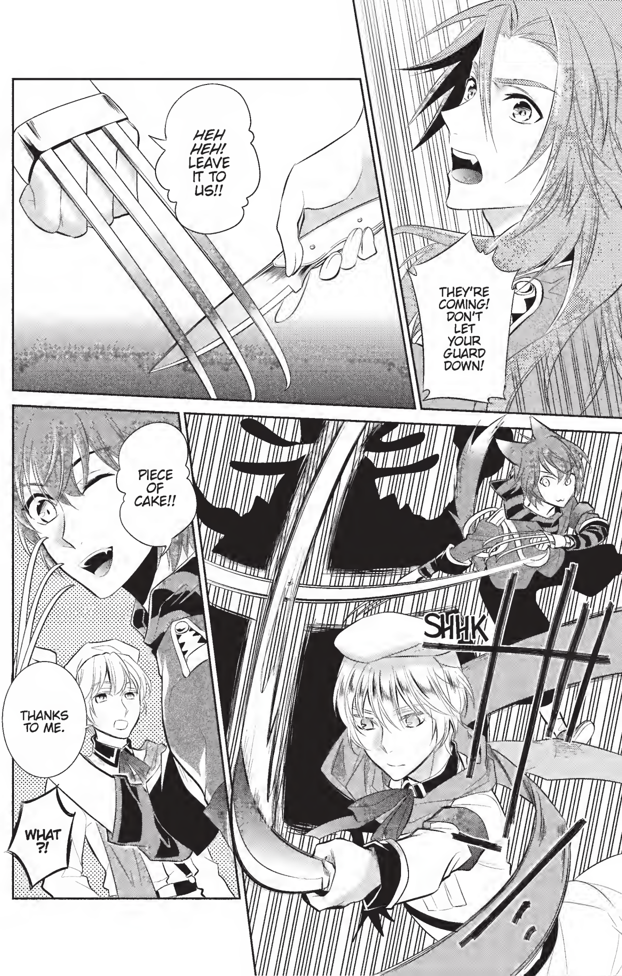

!
GRRCK
A WHIP?!
WHERE DID HE--?!
EVERY-ONE GET BACK!!
SNAP
NGH!
DUM!!
KLAK
JUST BARELY DODGED IT, DID YOU?

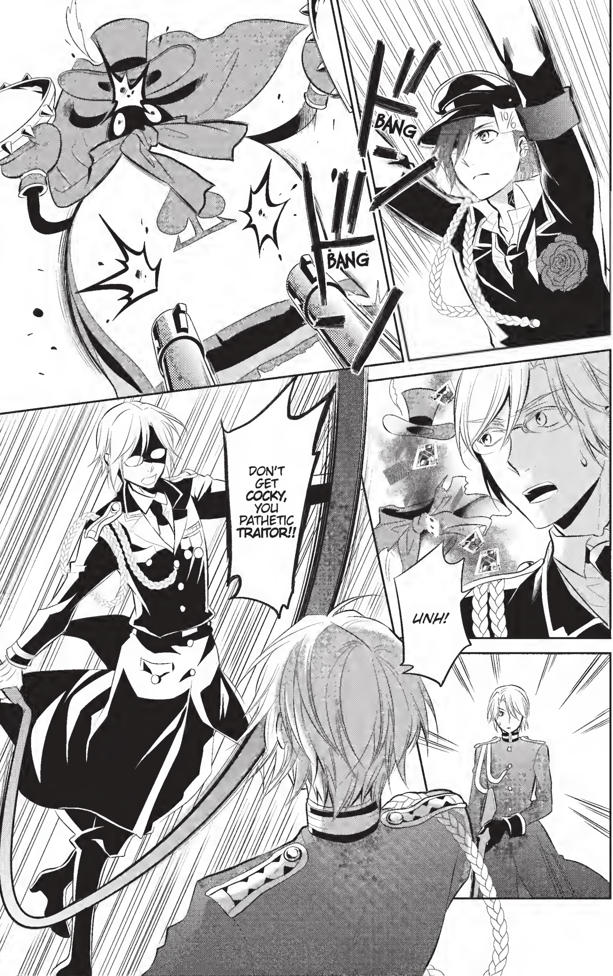

YOU MIGHT BE A DIRTY TRAITOR, BUT YOU ARE STILL MY OTHER HALF.
BROTHER ...!!
THAT'S DUM'S TWIN BROTHER?!

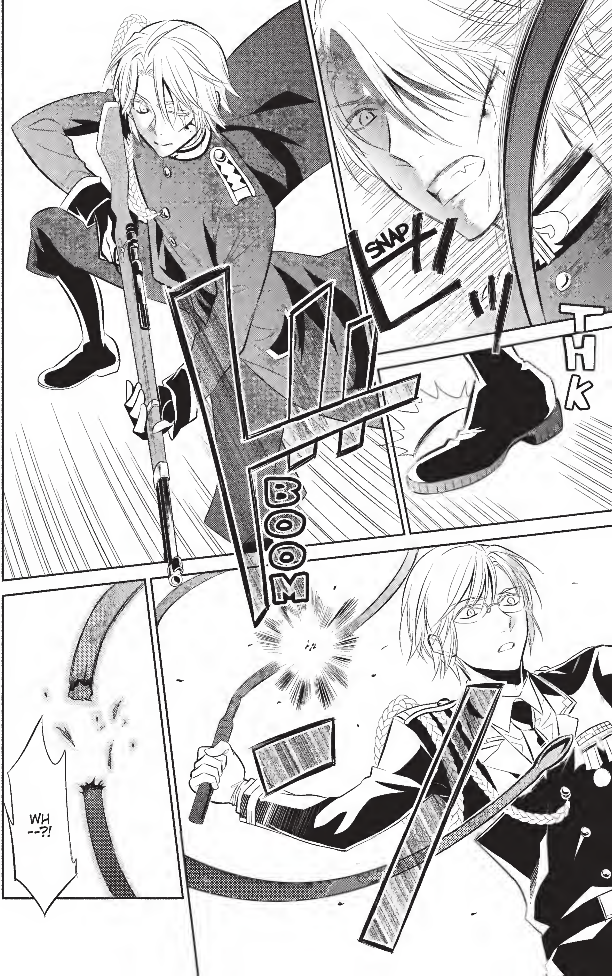

MY FOOLISH LITTLE BROTHER, DEFYING HIS KING...
THE SAME KING WHO FAVORED HIM SINCE CHILDHOOD.
I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE CARE OF YOU RIGHT HERE AND NOW...
BUT THE KING HAS *OTHER PLANS*.
HE HAS PROCLAIMED THAT YOU WILL NOT BE PUNISHED IF YOU RETURN TO HIM NOW.
OTHERWISE--
I DECLINE.

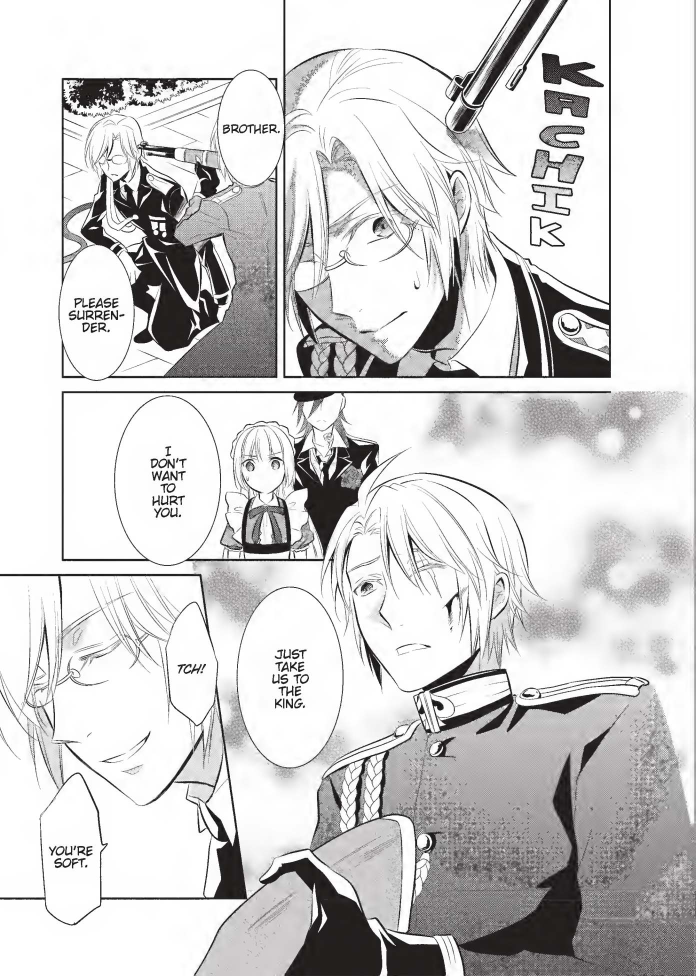

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE KING SEES MY ACTIONS AS TREACHERY.
BUT I BELIEVE IT'S WHAT'S BEST, FOR THIS COUNTRY AS WELL AS FOR THE KING.
OBEYING BLINDLY AND WITHOUT THOUGHT IS NOT LOYALTY!
FOOL--
CRACK

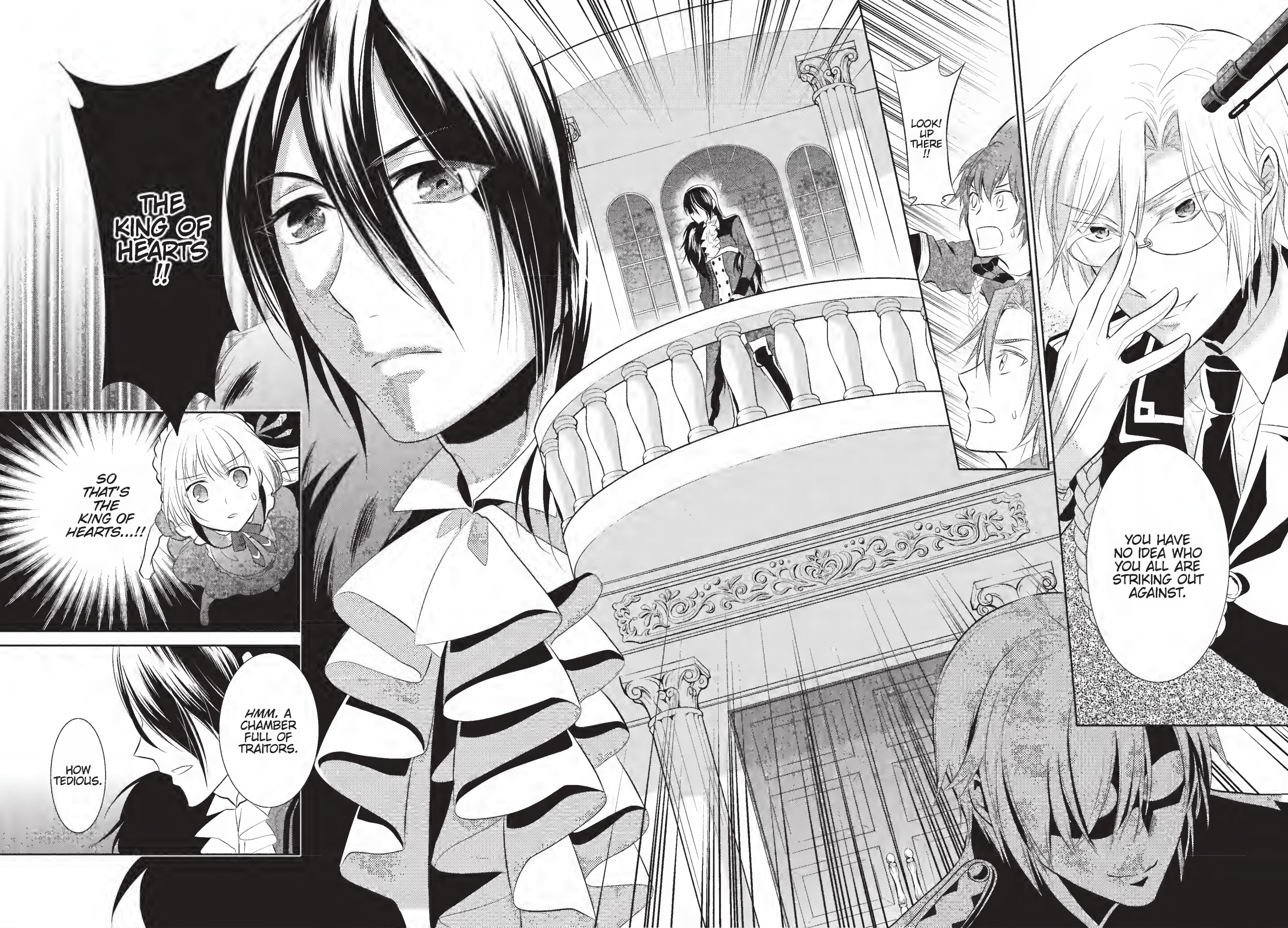

HAVE AT IT, THEN!
JUST AS I TOOK YOUR LEFT EYE WHEN YOU FLED THE PALACE...
NOW I WILL TAKE YOUR *HEART!*
ALONG WITH YOUR *TRAITOR FRIENDS!!*
KRRR
SHRRK

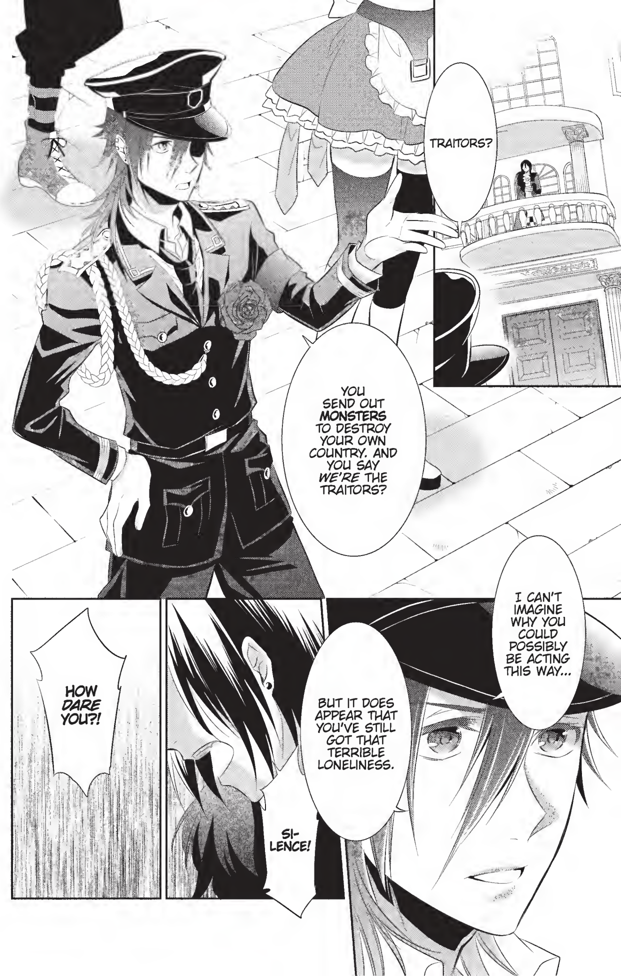

THEY'RE COMING! DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN!
HEH HEH! LEAVE IT TO US!!
SHHK
PIECE OF CAKE!!
THANKS TO ME.
WHAT?!

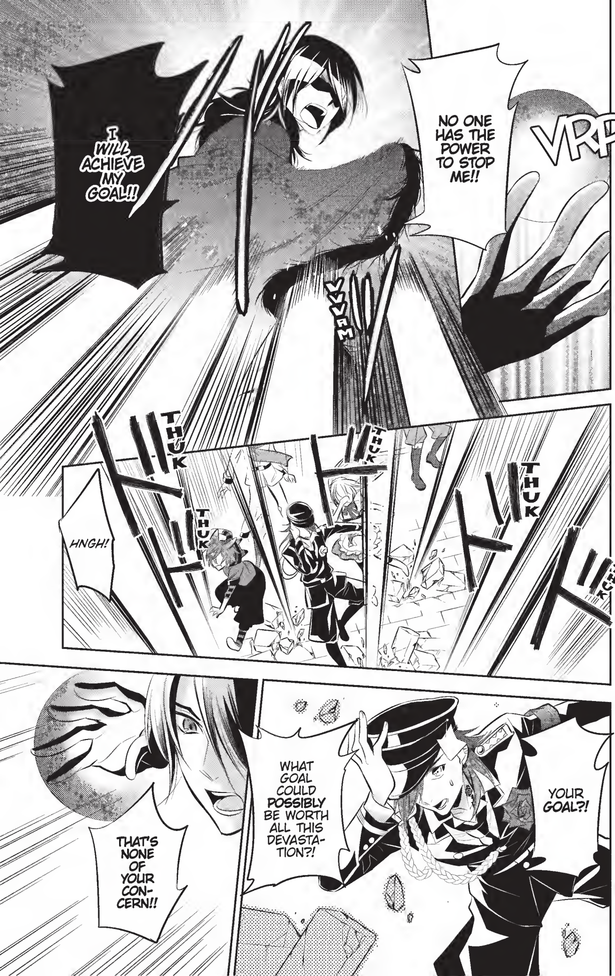

BANG
BANG
UNH!
DON'T GET COCKY, YOU PATHETIC TRAITOR!!

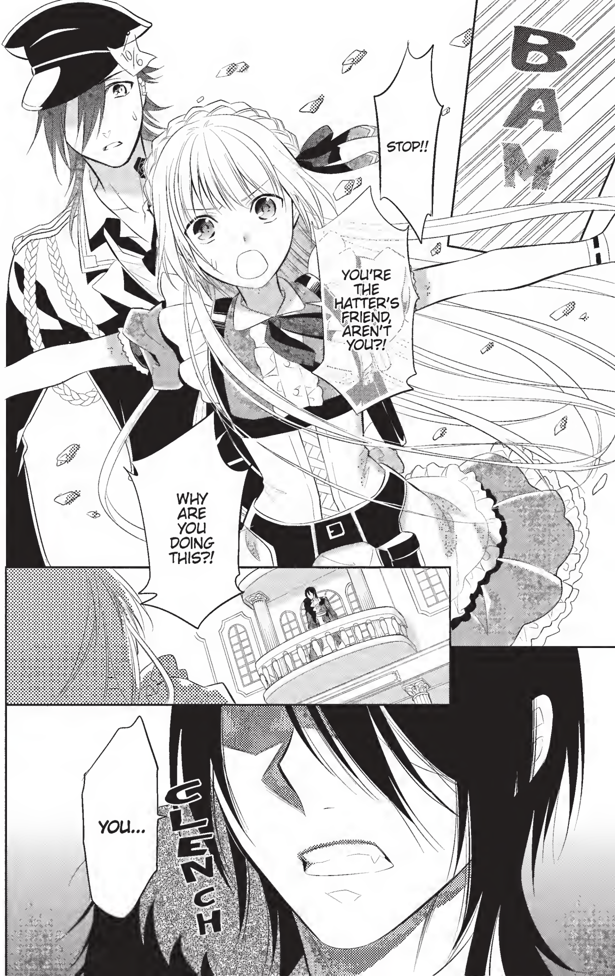

SNAP
THK
BOOM
WH--?!

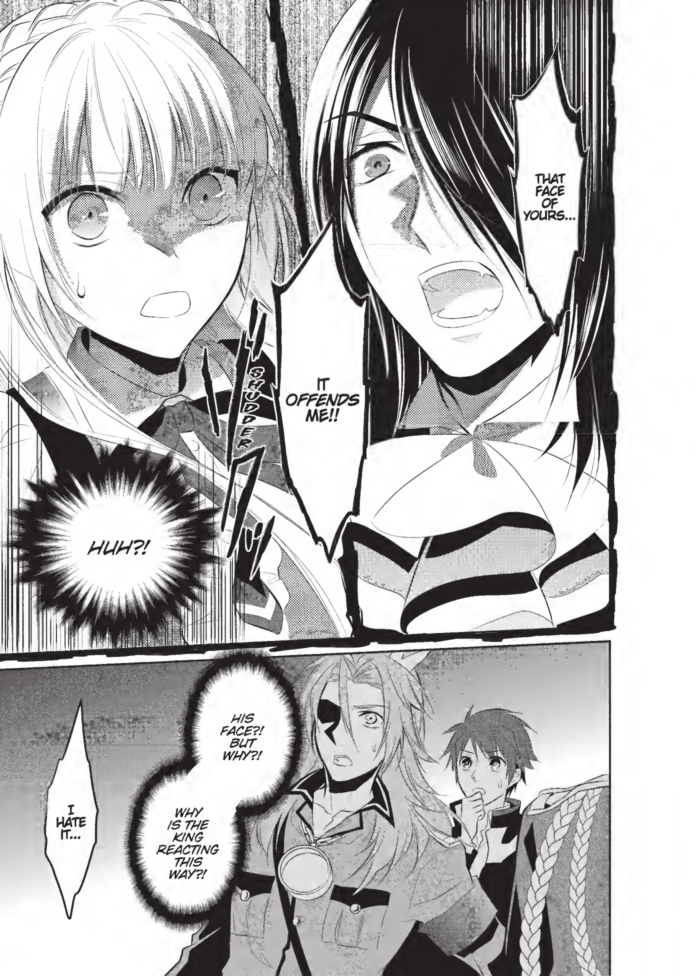

KACHIK
BROTHER.
PLEASE SURRENDER.
I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU.
JUST TAKE US TO THE KING.
TCH!
YOU'RE SOFT.

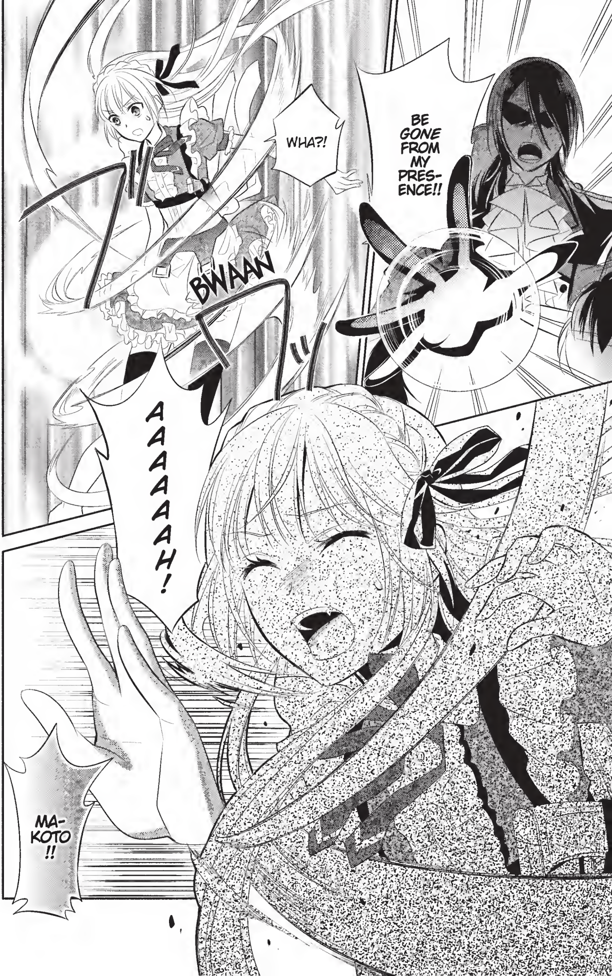

LOOK! UP THERE!!
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHO YOU ALL ARE STRIKING OUT AGAINST.
THE KING OF HEARTS!!
SO THAT'S THE KING OF HEARTS...!!
HMM. A CHAMBER FULL OF TRAITORS.
HOW TEDIOUS.

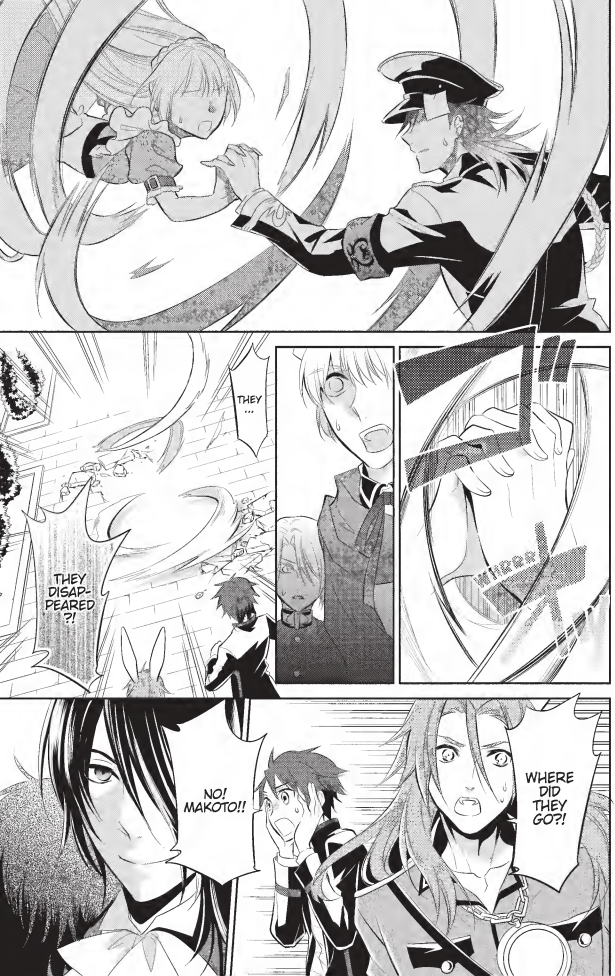

TRAITORS?
YOU SEND OUT **MONSTERS** TO DESTROY YOUR OWN COUNTRY. AND YOU SAY *WE'RE* THE TRAITORS?
I CAN'T IMAGINE WHY YOU COULD POSSIBLY BE ACTING THIS WAY...
BUT IT DOES APPEAR THAT YOU'VE STILL GOT THAT TERRIBLE LONELINESS.
SILENCE!
HOW *DARE* YOU?!

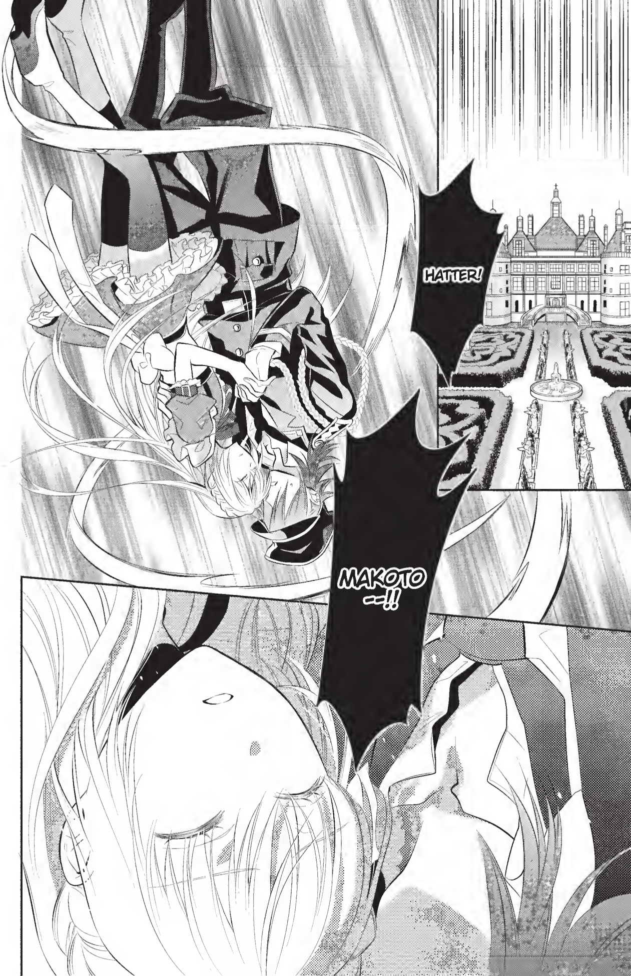

VRP
NO ONE HAS THE POWER TO STOP ME!!
I WILL ACHIEVE MY GOAL!!
VVVRM
THUK
THUK
THUK
THUK
HNGH!
THUK
THUK
YOUR GOAL?!
WHAT GOAL COULD POSSIBLY BE WORTH ALL THIS DEVASTATION?!
THAT'S NONE OF YOUR CONCERN!!

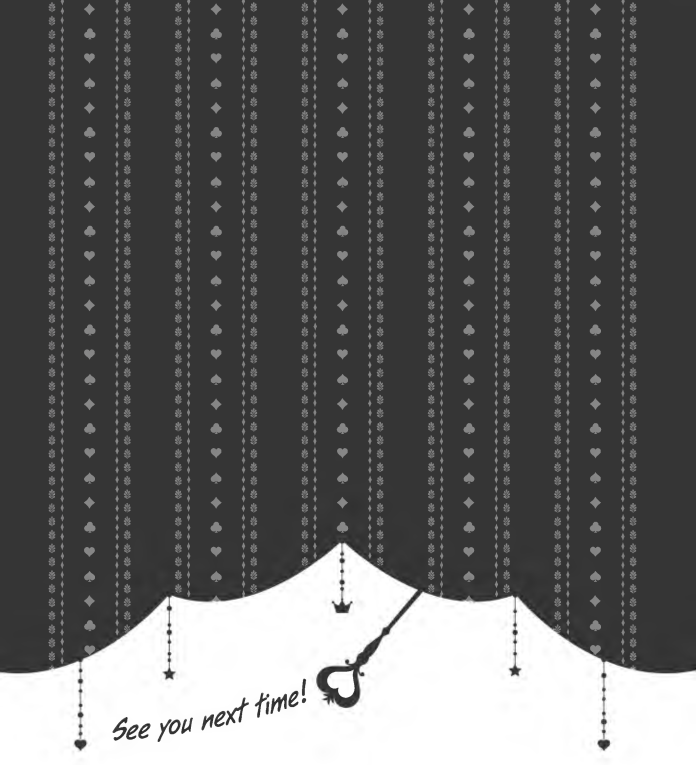

BAM
10/6
STOP!!
YOU'RE THE HATTER'S FRIEND, AREN'T YOU?!
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?!
YOU...
CLENCH


THAT FACE OF YOURS...
IT OFFENDS ME!!
SHUDDER
HUH?!
HIS FACE?! BUT WHY?!
WHY IS THE KING REACTING THIS WAY?!
I HATE IT...


BE GONE FROM MY PRESENCE!!
WHA?!
BWAAN
AAAAAAAH!
MAKOTO!!


WHRRR
THEY...
THEY DISAPPEARED?!
WHERE DID THEY GO?!
NO! MAKOTO!!


HATTER!
MAKOTO --!!


See you next time!

I AM ALICE:
BODY SWAP IN WONDERLAND
TO BE CONTINUED!

Hi there. Nice to see you here. This is Kanou Ayumi. Thank you so much for picking up Volume 2 of *I Am Alice.*

Just when you think you've finally gotten to the climax...it's to be continued again. The truth is, I originally intended to wrap the story in two volumes, but so many *I Am Alice* fans picked up Volume 1 that we decided to keep it going for a little longer. *Whee!* Thanks for all your support!

In Volume 3, as we chase after the whereabouts of the Hatter and Makoto, we might get to see a new character from *I Am Alice PLUS*... And what about the showdown with the King of Hearts?! Will Makoto be able to get back to his own body?! I'm really going to build the tension!

I hope you'll stick with the world of *I Am Alice* right up to the end!

Summer 2013
Kanou Ayumi

Special Thanks
Visual Works
MF Gene Editorial Dept.
My supervisor, Y-san
Designer
Morohashi-sama
Ai-san, Yukina-san,
K-yama-san
My family

SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

I AM ALICE

BODY SWAP IN WONDERLAND

art by **KANOU AYUMI** / story by **VISUALWORKS** **VOLUME 2**

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READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from ***right to left***, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get the hang of it! Have fun!!